

## Kuwait accepts Iraqi probe with conditions

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait accepts an Iraqi proposal for the formation of an international team to probe the fate of Kuwaitis missing since the Gulf war provided it includes the emirate's allies and works case by case, a newspaper reported. Kuwait also wants investigators to search inside Iraq for the 600 missing Kuwaitis detained during Iraq's 1990-91 occupation and believed still held by Baghdad. Al Watan daily quoted Kuwait's top official working on the issue as saying, "It was not immediately clear if a search inside Iraq was also a formal condition of Kuwaiti acceptance."

The president of the National Committee of Prisoners of War and Missing People, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, announced Kuwait's approval of the Iraqi initiative to form a fact-finding and searching committee to discuss the issue of Kuwaiti prisoners of war (PoWs) in Iraq. Sheikh Salem said in an exclusive statement to Al Watan that investigation and search of the Kuwait PoWs inside Iraq is the practical step that Kuwait awaits.

# Jordan Times

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## U.S. forces expand control of Haiti amid mixed signals Aristide unhappy with Port-au-Prince accord

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Agencies) — U.S. troops extended their control on Haiti on Tuesday here and in the provinces, as Haitian police violently broke up raucous pro-Aristide demonstrations in which one man was killed.

In New York, ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, in his first public comment

since U.S. troops landed in his country, pointedly failed to endorse President Bill Clinton's agreement with Haiti's military rulers on a transfer of power.

Aides to Mr. Aristide said a 15-line statement from the exiled president was deliberately silent on the Sunday night deal that allowed

15,000 U.S. troops into Haiti and meant to signal deep disagreement with Mr. Clinton on how to remove the country's military rulers from power.

At a White House event, Mr. Clinton ignored a question about Mr. Aristide's statement.

A senior U.S. official said

William Gray, President Clinton's special envoy in the Haiti crisis, and national Security Adviser Anthony Lake were to meet with Mr. Aristide late Tuesday to try to persuade him to back the accord.

The two men, accompanied by a Pentagon official, will reassure Mr. Aristide that Washington was not recognising the military-installed Jonassaint government. They will also insist that the accord "achieves the basic objectives that were sought," the official said.

Mr. Aristide, a 41-year-old Catholic priest turned politician who championed the cause of Haiti's impoverished, did issue a statement Tuesday but it made no mention of the accord.

"During the 36 months since the coup d'etat we have travelled with the people of Haiti back toward this democracy — choosing a path that will not add to the 5,000 murders already suffered, a path that will not lead toward greater violence," he said.

Oddly, that statement pleased the U.S. State Department which had feared a



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday sees off His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

## Prince Hassan leaves for Europe and U.N., will also meet Peres

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan left Amman for the United Kingdom on Tuesday on the first leg of a three-country visit during which he is expected to meet with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Washington, informed sources said.

After a several-day private visit to Britain and France, the Crown Prince, who was seen off at the airport by His Majesty King Hussein, will travel to the United States where he will address the U.N. General Assembly on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the world

body.

Informed sources told the Jordan Times that Prince Hassan's meeting with Mr. Peres will be attended by U.S. Vice-President Al Gore, who cancelled a previously confirmed trip to the Kingdom due to leg injury.

The sources said Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali could also attend the meeting.

They said the meeting would address developments on the trilateral economic talks that were launched by Jordan, the U.S., and Israel in the Dead Sea area in July. They said the meeting which falls within the framework of the trilateral talks, will also discuss development on the

bilateral Jordanian-Israeli peace talks.

The trilateral negotiations are mainly concerned with economic development projects, mainly a \$2 billion master plan for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley which could include a canal linking the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. The canal would bring the water at the Dead Sea to a safe level and would allow for electricity generation and water desalination projects.

Prince Hassan and Mr. Peres held their first public meeting in Washington last year under the auspices of U.S. President Bill Clinton. The meeting resulted in the announcement of a joint

U.S.-Jordanian-Israeli economic committee.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that Prince Hassan will meet with heads of state and other high-ranking officials who will be attending the current session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The Crown Prince was also seen off at the airport by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah, Prince Ghazi and Princess Basmah, Prime Minister Majali, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and other officials.

The Crown Prince is accompanied on the trip by Her Royal Highness Princess Badi'a Al Hassan.



A Haitian civilian argues with a Haitian policeman outside Port-au-Prince Harbour (AFP photo)

### Thinner causes blast

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department said Tuesday that a limited explosion occurred at a residential house in the Fourth Circle area, resulting in minimal material losses and no injuries. It said the explosion occurred after a container of thinner stored in the house caught fire.

### Egypt to block changes in U.N. resolution

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt will block any Israeli and U.S. attempts to change U.N. resolutions concerning the future of Jerusalem, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa said Tuesday. "Egypt's position is that resolutions that deal with — items that have not been discussed like Jerusalem, refugees and settlements should not be touched," Mr. Musa told journalists at Cairo airport, as he prepared to leave for the United States where he will attend the U.N. General Assembly meeting this Friday. Arab foreign ministers will hold meetings alongside the assembly to discuss "the (U.N.) resolutions concerning the Middle East which the United States and Israel want to change," Mr. Musa said.

### Fabius, ex-ministers to be charged

PARIS (AP) — Former Socialist Premier Laurent Fabius and two former ministers are to be charged later this month with complicity in poisoning Hemophiliacs who died after receiving AIDS-tainted blood products.

### Police close probe into Saudi gems case

BANGKOK (AFP) — Thai police are ready to take 29 people, including a former national police chief, to court for their role in the Saudi gems case, the head of the investigative unit said Tuesday. Police submitted five cases involving seven police officers and 22 civilians to the state prosecutor's office Tuesday, police General Cham Rattanaatham told reporters. Under Thai law, the prosecutor must decide whether to proceed with the cases, he said. The most senior officials named were former police chief Sawasdi Amornvivat and the police force's legal advisor, Gen.

## Ross reports seriousness for peace after meeting Assad

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — U.S. envoy Dennis Ross met with President Hafez Al Assad for six hours Tuesday seeking to revive stalled peace talks with Israel and said Syria was serious about seeking a settlement.

But officials on both sides gave no indication that any breakthrough was imminent in getting the negotiations, stalled since February, going again.

Mr. Ross, who arrived in Damascus Tuesday morning, said he and Mr. Assad had discussed the issues "at great length and detail."

He said he would fly to Israel to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, after which he will return to Washington to report to President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher. He left soon after.

Asked if he saw a better possibility of peace after his meeting with Mr. Assad, Mr. Ross, the U.S. peace talks coordinator, said he felt there was a lot of seriousness about achieving peace and "we'll be working in that direction."

It was not known if Mr. Ross brought any new ideas from Washington, which has so far failed to get the negotiations moving once more.

But Joubran Kourieh, Mr. Assad's spokesman, told reporters that Mr. Ross had conveyed to Mr. Assad a message from Mr. Clinton

containing a renewed U.S. commitment to the three-year-old peace effort and achieving a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He gave no details, but disclosed that Mr. Ross told Mr. Assad that Mr. Christopher will visit the region in the first half of October "to continue the American effort to push the peace process forward."

Mr. Christopher, who had earlier been expected to visit the region this month, has made four shuttle missions since February in a vain effort to get the peace talks moving again.

Mr. Ross met with Mr. Assad after being driven from the airport along a highway lined with large banners declaring "Peace is a noble end and a prized objective" and "Peace is the only substitute for war."

It was the first time there had been such a public display in favour of peace, although the banners also demanded that peace be just, comprehensive, and include the return of Arab lands.

The two were joined by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa, Syria's Ambassador to Washington Walid Al Mualeem and U.S. Ambassador here Christopher Ross, a Syrian official said.

Mr. Christopher's last Mid-

die East tour in August failed to revive Syrian-Israeli negotiations.

But Mr. Rabin said he detected a shift in Mr. Assad's stance in favour of peace after comments made by the Syrian president 10 days ago.

Mr. Assad told the Syrian parliament that Damascus was "aware of the objective requirements of peace and is ready to conform to the requirements on which an accord will be based."

Mr. Rabin had offered Syria a "marginal" withdrawal from the Golan Heights over three years to allow for normalisation of ties while the full extent of the pullout is negotiated.

Mr. Sharaa last month said his country wants a withdrawal from the strategic heights seized by Israel in the 1967 war over several months, not years.

Syria has been calling for a commitment to a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan before it announces the terms of peace, while Israel wants a pledge for a full peace first.

Mr. Rabin said Monday there were still four obstacles in the way of peace with Syria — "the scale of the Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the timetable of the withdrawal, the link between the withdrawal and normalisation of ties, and security

(Continued on page 7)

## Israeli troops kill man at roadblock

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian in the West Bank on Tuesday after they suspected he tried to avoid a check at an army roadblock, the army said.

The incident began when a Palestinian drove up to the roadblock in the West Bank town of Ram, just north of Jerusalem.

The man got out of the car, was handed a package by another Palestinian and tried to bypass the roadblock on foot, the army said.

Soldiers called on the man to stop, but he ignored the orders and started running, the army said. Soldiers said they fired first in the air and then at the Palestinian, critically wounding him, the army said.

A Palestinian motorist took the wounded man to the West Bank's Ramallah hospital, where he was dead on arrival with a bullet in the abdomen, doctors there said.

The army said it was investigating the shooting.

The Ram roadblock is one of dozens manned by the army at entry roads to Israel to enforce restrictions on Palestinian travel imposed in March 1992 after a wave of attacks on Israelis.

The man's death brought to 1,324 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli troops and civilians since the December 1987 start of the uprising against Israeli occupation.

Palestinian sources later named the man as Ziad Mohammad Al Dali, 22. He was the 20th Palestinian killed since autonomy was launched in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho in May, they said.

Gaza projects

The Palestinian economic agency PECDAR has approved 19 projects to develop the shattered infrastructure of Gaza and will start work on them immediately, a Palestinian official said.

(Continued on page 7)

## King Juan Carlos to visit Jordan in November

AMMAN (J.T.) — Spanish King Juan Carlos will on Nov. 12 begin an official visit to the Kingdom during which he will hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein on bilateral relations, developments in the peace process and other issues of mutual concern, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

They said Queen Sofia will be accompanying the Spanish monarch on the visit, which will last for three days.

King Juan Carlos last visited Jordan on a private visit in 1986. Jordan and Spain enjoy good relations.

## The visit of Malaysian trade delegation to Jordan Sept. 29 - Oct. 3

A trade delegation from Malaysia will be visiting Jordan from Sept. 29 - Oct. 3 1994. Members of the delegation are interested to meet Jordanian businessmen/entrepreneurs to discuss the possibilities of cooperation in the following areas:

1. Cooperation in the service industries including banking, insurance, tourism, shipping and forwarding, telecommunications and consultancy services.
2. Joint-ventures in property development, construction, hotels and resorts development.
3. Trading.
4. Import of Malaysian products into Jordan including foodstuff, rubber products, plastic products, timber products, furniture, electronic and electrical products, office equipment, textile, household products, ceramic tiles, palm oil and palm oil products, iron and steel products, water treatment system and petroleum products.

A programme is being arranged for the members of delegation to meet their counterparts from 0930-1200 hours on Sunday, Oct. 2, at Al Mukhtar Room, Inter Continental Hotel, Amman.

Jordanian businessmen/entrepreneurs who are interested in the above are requested to make appointment by contacting any one of the following:

The Honorary Consulate of Malaysia  
Shmeisani  
Amman  
Tel.: 676086  
Fax: 672088  
Contact: Miss Salwa, Miss Nadia  
(Please note that working hours are from Saturday - Thursday: 09:00-14:00 hrs.)  
OR  
The Secretariat of Malaysian Trade Delegation  
Inter-Continental Hotel  
Amman  
Tel.: 615829/615833/615835  
Fax: 615836  
Contact: Mr. Abdullah Sani Baharin  
(The secretariat will be operating from Sept. 21 - Oct. 3, 1994 from 08:30-17:00 hrs.)  
(Continued on page 7)





British Prime Minister John Major (right) is greeted by United Arab Emirates Deputy Premier Sheikh Sultan Ben

Zayed Al Nahayan upon his arrival in Abu Dhabi on Monday (AFP photo)

## Major's Gulf visits focus on economy

ABU DHABI (AP) — British Prime Minister John Major spoke Monday of Britain's economic recovery and of plans to promote more trade with the oil-rich Gulf. He made his statement in Saudi Arabia before leaving for the United Arab Emirates. He stopped over in the two countries on his way to South Africa.

In Abu Dhabi, he met with UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, who awarded the British minister a medal for his efforts to develop relations between the two countries.

The two leaders held talks before the medal ceremony banquet.

Sources said they focused on boosting economic relations as well as military and defence cooperation.

The UAE is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council which, in a weekend statement, urged the international community to maintain sanctions imposed on Iraq when it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Britain and the United States support this stance.

"We in the West do not have any differences with the

Iraqi people," Mr. Major said. "The problem is the Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein."

UAE trade with Britain last year rose to six billion dirhams (\$1.6 billion) compared to 5.2 billion dirhams (\$1.4 billion) in 1992. In the first quarter of this year, it reached 1.5 billion dirhams (\$414.9 million), according to the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce.

The balance of trade last year was in favour of Britain by 2 billion dirhams (\$544 million), the chamber said.

Before leaving Saudi Arabia, Mr. Major met with British businessmen in the kingdom and told them that Britain had reached a "historic turning point" on the path to economic recovery and was on the verge of economic growth not seen since World War II, according to the British news agency, Press Association.

"We are playing for the long-term — long-term prosperity, long-term jobs and long-term growth," he said.

The British prime minister said his meeting Sunday with King Fahd was fruitful and

useful. They discussed regional issues, the Middle East peacekeeping process, the situation in Somalia and other topics, but not Bosnia-Herzegovina, he told reporters.

Despite Mr. Major's denial, Arab diplomats insisted Bosnia-Herzegovina was the main topic.

Bosnia-Herzegovina is a top issue in the Islamic World, which wants the arms embargo against the Balkan republic lifted to enable their fellow Muslims to defend themselves against the overwhelming force of the Serbs.

The diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, quoted King Fahd as saying the continuation of the current situation was unacceptable and "a matter that is not condoned by heavenly bests and moral norms."

"Western silence and especially the European, has become non-acceptable to the Islamic public opinion," they quoted King Fahd as saying.

Britain has threatened to withdraw its forces from the Balkan republic if the ban is lifted and has sought an eas-

ing of sanctions against Serbia.

Mr. Major called for political reconciliation between northern forces in neighbouring Yemen and southern secessionists who were defeated in a two-month civil war that ended July 7.

Sana'a, in an official statement Monday, charged Mr. Major was interfering in its internal affairs.

"Those who are calling for reconciliation between the so-called north and south Yemen should have the same keenness to achieve reconciliation between the north and the south of the United Kingdom and between its east and west," it said, alluding to the Irish problem.

On Sunday, King Fahd held a banquet in Mr. Major's honour, attended by the leading state officials and royal princes. During the banquet, Mr. Major received the King Abdul Aziz Sash of the First Order, the highest honour in Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Major was accompanied by his wife Norma and a high-powered delegation of businessmen, scientists and sports personalities.

## Chance seen for change in Egypt female circumcision

By Eileen Alt Powell  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — The practice of cutting girls' genitals, widespread in Egypt but rarely a source of controversy, is suddenly making newspaper headlines and government ministers are talking change.

Widespread publicity on the long-taboo subject of female circumcision was set off when CNN International showed the procedure being performed on a 10-year-old girl who screamed in pain.

At first, the cable network met with enraged criticism. But then headlines began appearing like the one Sunday in the opposition daily Al-Ahram: "Circumcision, a crime against girls."

Now feminists and doctors, who have been largely ignored, hope the attention will discredit the traditional view that the procedure is necessary to tame girls' sexual passions as they reach puberty.

"It's been a shock for most people. But now the media's coming in, and there's real interest by the government to do something," said Aziza Hussein, head of a group working to stop the practice.

The procedure, called genital mutilation or female circumcision, ranges from clipping the clitoris to removing the external part of the sex organs.

The CNN report angered the Egyptian government since it was aired during a U.N. population conference that the government hoped would showcase the nation.

But the government

already has promised change. Since the late 1950s, government hospitals and clinics have not been allowed to perform the procedure, but there has been no action to stop it elsewhere.

Now Health Minister Ali Abdull Fatah has promised to introduce a law banning the practice. He also has pledged support for Ms. Hussein's group.

The practice would not be easy to eradicate, however. Women's groups say the genitals are cut on more than half of Egyptian girls, even those in middle-class urban families. The World Health Organisation estimates at least 80 million women have had the procedure, most of them in Africa.

Some attribute the practice to Islamic tradition, but it is not done in most Muslim countries. Others say it goes back to the time of the Pharaohs. The most extreme form is called pharaonic circumcision.

Patents, especially in villages and Cairo slums, believe they are helping their daughters. They think circumcision is necessary for cleanliness and to protect a girl's virginity before marriage.

Opponents say that girls who undergo botched operations — generally performed by midwives or barbers without anesthesia — can bleed to death, suffer from chronic urinary infections and have life-threatening complications in childbirth.

The CNN report, broadcast in Egypt on Sept. 7, showed a barber operating on the girl in a poor Cairo slum.

Afterwards, in a rare step, police jailed the barber, the

plumber who assisted him, a florist accused of helping arrange the videotaping and the girl's father. The procedure is illegal unless performed in a medical facility, although the law has rarely been enforced.

In a letter published this weekend in the pro-government Al-Ahram newspaper, Egyptian radio employee Afaf Zahran called it "a crime against Egypt at a time when the whole world was looking towards Cairo."

But psychiatrist Adel Abu Zahra, in a letter published in the same paper, chided critics who worry just about Egypt's reputation.

"I beg that our strong anger be employed in wiping out the crime of girls' circumcision, this ugly practice which distorts what God has created and is an aggression against the humanity of our girls," he wrote.

CNN correspondent Gayle Young, who produced the programme, says the report was not meant to embarrass Egypt but to show that "this practice is widely and openly done."

She added: "I'm gratified that people are discussing the issue. Now myths and misconceptions can be taken away."

Cairo University medical school professor Mohammed Abu Al Ghar described it as "a deeply rooted social problem."

"If the whole Egyptian population felt deeply humiliated by this incident, and the people deeply hurt, they have to remember that this harm continues day and night and everywhere, and that we have to move to solve the problem at its roots," he said.

## Psychiatric exams for British soldiers

NICOSIA (AP) — Three British soldiers being held in connection with the kidnapping and murder of a Danish tour guide were taken to hospital Tuesday for psychiatric examinations, police said.

Each of the soldiers arrived at Nicosia general hospital in separate police cars from Larnaca where they have been in custody since Sept. 13 when Louise Jensen, 23, was seized.

No charges have been filed against the men, but police say they have confessed to Jensen's murder.

Jensen had been the Cyprus representative for the Danish tour agency Fritidstour. She disappeared after being seized by three men who attacked her and a male friend as they rode a motorcycle in the popular beach resort of Ayia Napa, say police.

Her battered body was found two days after in a shallow grave on farmland near Ayia Napa. Police said she had been severely beaten about the head and neck in a "brutal murder."

Her body was flown home to Denmark on Monday, the English-language daily, Cyprus Mail, reported.

The soldiers, dressed in civilian clothes and each handcuffed to a police officer, were rushed past journalists and photographers and into the hospital Tuesday morning without making any comment.

Police, who have not offered a motive for Jensen's slaying, would not say what they were seeking from the examinations.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 72111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**  
17:00 ..... Tao Tao  
17:30 ..... N.A.A. sport  
18:30 ..... News in French  
18:45 ..... Musique Mathématique  
19:00 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Bob  
21:10 ..... The Nature of Things  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... The Nanny  
22:50 ..... Foldark

### PRAYER TIMES

04:00 ..... Fajr  
05:17 ..... (Sunrise) Dubai  
11:20 ..... Dhur  
14:59 ..... 'Asr  
17:42 ..... Maghreb  
19:00 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swireh, Tel. 810740  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 627440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622506  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

### Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 626543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 625226

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624528

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will drop slightly with clouds appearing at different altitudes. There will be a chance of showers in the eastern parts of the Kingdom with winds westerly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp. 18/29

Amman 24/36

Agaba 17/33

Jordan Valley 23/35

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 32, Aqaba 37, Humidity readings: Amman 32 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:  
Dr. Nidal Al Dahleh 827195  
Dr. Salim Al Dahleh 716751  
Dr. Fakhri Teyeh 885880  
Dr. Yalya Abdul Salam 736072  
First pharmacy 661912  
First pharmacy 778336  
Al Aqaba pharmacy 637023  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shamsi pharmacy 637660  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Najib pharmacy 847632

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Amman 24/36

Agaba 17/33

Jordan Valley 23/35

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777  
Blood Bank 617101  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints 602800  
Price Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467  
Amman Municipality 775121  
Complaints 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 810230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101  
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 723111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642816  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shamsi 6641714  
Shamsi Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 845845  
Al-Muhsin Hospital 6672279  
The Islamic, Abdali 6612767  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3  
Al-Basim, J. Ashrafieh 7751126  
Army, Al-Muhajreen 891611/5  
Queen Aila Hospital 60224050  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)980732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)999090

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

**QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

**ARRIVALS**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
08:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
09:25 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
15:00 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
16:15 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
16:35 ..... London (RJ)  
17:25 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
17:25 ..... Paris (RJ)  
18:00 ..... Brussels, Geneva (RJ)  
18:10 ..... Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
18:25 ..... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Rome (RJ)  
11:40 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)

**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**  
10:10 ..... Damascus (AZ)  
10:25 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
10:30 ..... Yemen (YV)  
18:30 ..... Jeddah (SV)  
12:25 ..... Cairo (MS)



## EU details its role in multilateral phase

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The European Union (EU) considers that improvements on the ground are a key element in the success of the Middle East peace process, and, as such, it is closely involved in a multitude of development projects in the region, a European Community newsletter says.

The newsletter, published by the Delegation of the Commission of European Communities, the executive arm of the 12-member EU, referred to a "Copenhagen Action Plan" that was released in November 1993 that contained a series of programmes with EU involvement in the Middle East.

The newsletter noted that the EU's "major direct role" has been the Regional Economic Development Working Group (REDWG), which it chairs as part of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process. It was under the umbrella of this group that the Copenhagen Action Plan was devised after several rounds of its meetings.

The programme cover communications and transport, energy, tourism, agriculture, financial markets and investment, trade and training.

Among the projects which are already under way, according to the newsletter, are an engineering study of a road from Amman to Jericho and Jerusalem, another from Aqaba to Eilat and Egypt, a workshop for civil aviation officials, and regional workshop on technical problems of transport and communications.

In the energy sector, the EU is involved in a study for linking national power grids of Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the occupied territories and a review of existing studies for a hydro-electrical power plan on the Dead Sea, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

The newsletter did not make clear whether any particular emphasis was being to the Red Sea-Dead side of the studies. This would involve a Jordanian proposal to connect the Red Sea with the Dead Sea as part of an overall economic development plan for the Jordan Rift Valley drawn up by the U.S.

The Red Sea-Dead Sea canal project would also involve a hydro-electric project, lagoons, desalination plants etc., and the output of the project would be shared by the riparians to the Dead Sea.

In tourism, the EU is organising meetings of European and American tour operators with regional officials.

In the agriculture sector, the EU is involved in a "project-oriented" workshop of senior veterinary officials and a mission to identify areas of veterinary medicine networks in animal health and livestock improvement, and joint vaccination.

In the financial market and investment sector, the community has organised workshops on the business, legal and regulatory environment for the private sector and European and regional conferences to promote joint ventures.

A symposium on the administrative simplification of the movement of goods has also been organised by

the EU.

The programmes were or are being carried out with the support of the EU and the individual countries involved, it said.

Another significant element of EU activities as part of the peace process is an effort to bring various sectors of the region's countries together in various forums. These include municipalities, universities and media organisations.

The EU programmes are separate from the bilateral programmes that the community has with the individual countries of the region and the EU pledge of nearly \$600 million to help develop economy of the Palestinians in the occupied territories following the signing of the autonomy agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel in September 1993.

The European Commission manages programmes financed by its own budget, which is separate from the bilateral arrangements that EU member countries have with the individual governments in the region.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Majlis back moves to ban satellite TV

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iranian parliament (Majlis) Tuesday approved a draft proposal for banning satellite dishes, which religious leaders have denounced as a Western cultural invasion diluting Islamic values. Tehran radio said the 270-seat house approved the outline of a bill banning the "import, manufacture, sale and use of satellite dishes in Iran." It also spells out punishments for violators, said the radio, without elaborating. Parliament set up a committee to study the bill point by point before submitting it to a plenary parliamentary session for final approval, it said. Under the Iranian system, the bill would take effect only after the bill has been endorsed as law and cleared by the Council of Guardians, a six-man committee that scrutinises parliament's decisions to make sure they comply with Islamic law. Iran's Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister, Mostafa Mirsalim was quoted by the radio as saying, "Western satellite television programmes constituted a cultural invasion of Iran. We cannot remain indifferent to that invasion."

### Police arrest 264 in Tehran crackdown

TEHRAN (AFP) — Police have arrested 264 people in western Tehran in a crackdown on "thugs and hoodlums," a newspaper reported Tuesday. Those arrested, aged between 13 and 28, were accused mainly of crimes such as drug dealing and addiction, theft and military draft dodging. Kayhan said, without specifying when the crackdown took place. Most of them had come to Tehran from western provinces in search of jobs, but ended up selling drugs, alcohol and gambling equipment.

### Turkey's premier to visit Arafat

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said on Tuesday she would visit Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat during her forthcoming Middle East trip, planned for November. "We decided to contribute to an international (monitoring) force to be set up in Gaza and Jericho at Arafat's request," Ms. Ciller told the parliamentary deputies of her True Path Party. "I told Arafat I would visit him during my trip to the Middle East in which important issues will be taken in hand," she said. Ms. Ciller's trip to the Middle East, set for early November, will also include visits to Egypt and Israel.

### Healer cures 'possessed' family

CAIRO (AFP) — An Egyptian healer evicted genies from the bodies of an entire family struck down by sleeping sickness in northern Egypt by using verses from the holy Koran, a newspaper reported Tuesday. After doctors and healers across Egypt failed to cure the seven-member family, Hussein Mohammad Shahin, an engineer by trade, diagnosed that "the family was ill with black magic of genies." Al-Akhbar wrote. Mr. Shahin, who was working in an unspecified Gulf country, returned to Egypt to heal the family after reading of their sickness in the newspaper. He found "some members asleep, some unable to speak" when he arrived at the family's home in Mahalla Al Kubra about 150 kilometres north of Cairo. In a session which Al-Akhbar said it attended, Mr. Shahin read aloud verses from the Koran over each member of the family. His patients "shook strongly" and began to explain their sickness. But "the speaker was not them, but from inside them, but which used (the patients') tongue," Al-Akhbar wrote. The patients were "completely unconscious," but the voices asked Mr. Shahin to release them, the paper said. Mr. Shahin refused, saying "he would burn

them so they would not return to the family again." Al-Akhbar wrote, adding that he did. The family returned to its natural "family and social activities" while Mr. Shahin refused pay for his services, adding that he challenged genies of all sorts, the paper said.

### Velayati urges U.N. observers in Tajikistan

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati has called on the United Nations to send observers to Tajikistan as soon as possible to enable the recently agreed on ceasefire to take effect, state-run Iranian radio reported Tuesday. According to the agreement reached Saturday between Tajikistan's Russian-backed rebels and the Islamic opposition the ceasefire will be implemented only after the deployment of U.N. observers. "It is, therefore, necessary that the U.N. should speed up the task of sending its observers to Tajikistan," Mr. Velayati said. The ceasefire will remain in force until after the presidential elections of Nov. 6, according to the agreement brokered during U.N.-mediated talks in Iran's capital, Tehran. The two sides also agreed to swap 40 political prisoners for 52 government forces in the next 25 days. Tajikistan has been embroiled in clan warfare, ethnic strife and a bloody struggle for political power since shortly after the Soviet collapse. The conflicts have killed at least 20,000 people and driven an estimated 500,000 from their homes. Many fled to neighbouring Afghanistan, where they found support among Islamic guerrillas.

### Five BCCI convicts released

ABU DHABI (AP) — Five of the 12 former Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) executives convicted of fraud in the bank's collapse, officials announced Tuesday. The release of the five, who included some naturalised British citizens, coincided with British Prime Minister John Major's visit to Abu Dhabi Monday on his way to South Africa. But the official statement announcing their freedom did not connect the events. The five were among 13 former top executives of the failed BCCI who faced charges of fraud in its collapse. Six of the defendants had been held in Abu Dhabi since investigations into the bank's failure began in September 1991. The 13 went to trial in October and in June, 12 were found guilty, including two in absentia. They received jail terms ranging from three to 14 years. Since the sentences were handed down, defence attorneys have been pressing for the release of those who got the three-year terms on the grounds that, given their early incarceration, they had already completed their sentences.

### Casablanca to study development bank plan

CAIRO (AFP) — An economic summit next month in Casablanca, Morocco, will consider a plan to set up a development bank for the Middle East, an Egyptian official said Monday. Rauf Saad, in charge of international economic affairs at the Foreign Ministry, told AFP that a working group discussed the proposal the previous day in the Egyptian capital and drew up a position paper. It was the first time the idea was discussed in concrete terms by the group, which forms part of the multilateral track of the Middle East peace process. Mr. Saad said the working group — composed of Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians — established four sub-committees on infrastructure, tourism, trade and finance. Its work would be presented to the North Africa and Middle East Economic Summit to take place in Casablanca on Oct. 31-Nov. 1 "for interaction between the multilateral group and the summit," he said.

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## NEWS IN I

### King receives envoys' cre

AMMAN — King Hussein received a delegation of envoys from the Islamic Republic of Iran on Tuesday. The delegation, led by the Iranian ambassador to Jordan, was received in a formal ceremony at the Royal Palace. The king expressed his appreciation for the visit and the efforts of the Iranian government to promote peace and stability in the region.

### CAA signs lending deal

AMMAN — The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has signed a lending agreement with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for the purchase of new aircraft. The deal, valued at \$100 million, will allow the CAA to modernise its fleet and improve its services to passengers.

## WHAT'S GO

### COMEDY

Comedy theatre group entitled "The British Theatre Company" will perform a play at the Jordan Theatre on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

### CONCERT

The concert at the Royal Palace will be held at 8:00 p.m.

### LECTURE

Lecture in Arabic by Mr. N. Al-Ahmed will be held at the Jordan Theatre on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITION</



## Conference to focus on Muslim communities in post-bipolar Europe

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Conference on Muslim Communities in Post-Bipolar Europe will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan from Sept. 28-30 at the Regency Palace Hotel, according to a statement by the Al al-Bayr Foundation Tuesday.

The conference is convened by the Centre for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at the University of Durham, England.

This is the third in a series of international conferences on the theme organised by British academics.

The first two were held during 1993 in Skopje of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Durham, and were sponsored by the British

Council and the Council of Europe, the statement said. The forthcoming conference will be hosted at the generous invitation of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al-Bayr Foundation).

Sponsors include the World Assembly for Muslim Youth in Saudi Arabia and Institut European des Sciences Humaines in France, said the statement.

According to the statement, the main objective of the series of conferences is to promote research in this important and increasingly topical field, in order to provide accurate documentation of the circumstances of the various Muslim communities, and the dynamics that shape their relations with European

societies and states.

This particular conference also aims to provide a forum for consultation between European researchers in this field and their colleagues within the Muslim communities, said the statement.

It is hoped that this will form a basis for further cooperation, which is increasingly necessary as European societies face new challenges.

The previous two conference surveys the Muslim communities in Eastern Europe, Russia, Scandinavia and southern Europe. The coming conference will focus on western Europe and the Balkans, with papers addressing the following themes:

— Western Europe: The nation-state, national identity, political participation and

citizenship; mutual perceptions and the media; the international dimension.

— The Balkans: The preservation and transmission of Muslim identity under the communist regimes; the renaissance of Islam since the collapse of the communist regimes; changing notions of national identity and citizenship (the role of Islam in the reconstruction of national/ethnic identity in the post-communist era).

About 25 scholars from western Europe and the Balkans will present papers on these themes. In addition, three case-studies introducing non-European paradigms and experiences (China, South East Asia, South Africa) will provide a comparative perspective.

## Court sums up case against suspects in armed robberies

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Criminal Court on Tuesday summed up its case against 13 suspects including two women accused of six murders and more than 60 armed robberies in different parts of the Kingdom, opening the way for defence to begin its argument and present its witnesses.

The court, headed by Judge Yousef Hmoud, was presented with a file implicating the defendants in more than 60 armed robberies and six murders committed during some of the robberies in the past two years. Two of the mur-

der victims were security officers.

The trial will resume on Oct. 11.

If convicted, some of the defendants could face the death sentence by the three-judge-panel hearing the case.

During the past year and a half, the court questioned 160 witnesses in one of the most dangerous cases involving organised gangs to be reported in the Kingdom.

Father kills 24-year-old son

A 24-year-old man was brutally murdered Sunday

by his father in Nazal suburb of downtown Amman, according to police reports.

Saleh A. was sleeping in his house when he was struck in the head with a meat cleaver several times and repeatedly stabbed with a kitchen knife by his 56-year-old father, who turned himself in to police immediately after the killing, a neighbour told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

"The victim's mother was sitting outside the house when her husband told her 'I am going to give myself up to police' and left," the neighbour said.

The neighbour said that

Saleh was a trouble-maker and always fought with his father, but "he had a good heart and would help anyone in need."

Three days before he was killed, the neighbour added, Saleh had a big argument with his father but no one knew what it was about.

In his testimony to police, the father said that he killed his son because he caused him trouble all the time and threatened him several times with a switch-blade.

Saleh was one of 11 siblings. He did not complete his high school education and was unemployed.

## Major part of Jerusalem is an Islamic Waqf — mosque director

AMMAN (Petra) — The major part of the holy city of Jerusalem is an Islamic Waqf (endowment) under the sponsorship and care of the Jordanian Ministry of Waqf and Islamic Affairs, said Director of the Al Aqsa Mosque at the Ministry of Waqf Rafiq Al Khathib Tuesday.

The Jordanian government has through the ministry spent a total of \$485 million from its annual budgets between 1952 and 1992 on running Islamic Waqf affairs and affiliated services in the holy city, said Mr. Khathib.

Apart from religious en-

dowments, the ministry's services cover 60 Islamic schools in the city, said Mr. Khathib who added that the old walled city contains other real estate and plots of land all owned and operated by the waqf office which is supervised by the ministry in Amman.

The old city, he said, also contains an Islamic orphanage and 35 mosques, and in the new city outside the Damascus Gate, there are several other properties all owned by the Waqf office.

In addition to these properties, the Waqf office is in

charge of 300 dunums that serve as Islamic cemeteries located around the old city.

Referring to the role of the Hashemites in the holy city, Mr. Khathib said that they have been caring for the holy shrines since the early days of Sharif Hussein Ben Ali at the beginning of the 20th century who provided funds for the upkeep of the holy sites.

Under His Majesty King Hussein a special committee was formed in 1954 to take charge of the restoration of Al Haram Al Sharif.

The first restoration of the Dome of the Rock took place

between 1956 and 1964, and after the 1969 burning of Al Aqsa Mosque the committee carried out restoration work there as well at the cost of JD19 million.

He said it was King Hussein who ordered the recent restoration at the Dome of the Rock and donated \$8.25 million to cover the cost.

According to Mr. Khathib, the Waqf office in Jerusalem employs 2,500 workers whose salaries come from Jordan which also pays the salaries of nearly 600 teachers at Islamic schools and other related religious institutions.

## Minister urges Arab World to preserve common culture

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture Jumaa Hammad opened a three-day meeting on inter-Arab culture by calling on the Arabs to do all they can and to cooperate in preserving their common culture.

Addressing the opening session of the seminar, organised in cooperation with the Arab League Educational,

Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ALSCO), the minister said Arab culture serves as a protective shield against foreign and hostile cultural challenges and concepts that seep into children's minds through the modern media.

The Ministry of Culture, he said, does not hold a monopoly over culture, but

calls for the creation of a suitable climate in which Arab culture can thrive.

ALESCO Director General Mohammad Al Jabri said that the seminar was in implementation of a decision by Arab ministers of culture and is aimed at pooling Arab cultural resources.

Gathered at the Royal

Cultural Centre (RCC) for the seminar are 12 participants representing Jordan and six other Arab states who will be reviewing the Arab cultural situation, cultural dialogues among Arab states, Arab cultural integration, translation and Arabisation and other aspects pertaining to culture as well as Arab and Islamic cultural cooperation.

SINO-JORDANIAN COOPERATION: Interior Minister Salamah Hammad Tuesday reviews with the Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Wang Chi Je scopes of bilateral cooperation and means of enhancing relations (Petra photo)



JOINT EFFORTS: Royal Jordanian (RJ) President and Chief Executive Officer Nader Dahabi (second right) Tuesday chairs a meeting attended by representatives of 10 travel and tourist offices and the president of the Jordan Travel Agents Association (JTAA) to discuss cooperation between the two sides. Mr. Dahabi told the agents that the national airline does not compete with their business but rather serves as a supporter and promoter of the tourism industry and is keen on maintaining the strongest



possible working relations with the country's travel agents. He said RJ

has introduced a bonus system by which it offers financial awards to

agents with the highest number of RJ ticket sales.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### King receives envoys' credentials

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received the credentials of seven appointed ambassadors to Jordan at a special ceremony held at Raghadan Palace. The new ambassadors are Jorge Iglesias of Chile, William Habib of Lebanon, Edward Decarvalho of Portugal, Constantinos Maliotis of Cyprus, Mohammad Ali Amr of Eritrea, Ernesto Ahascal of Cuba and Tofa Kiasfki of Norway. The ceremony was attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor, Marwan Al Qasem, Youth Minister and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Fawaz Ahul Ghanam.

### CAA signs landing deal with Brussels

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ahmad Jweiber, head of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), said here Tuesday that he has concluded a deal with the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority for increasing RJ's two weekly flights to Brussels to three. Mr. Jweiber, who returned to Amman Monday following a visit to Belgium at the head of CAA delegation, said the deal was concluded during the talks with Belgian civil aviation officials. He said agreement was also reached on the landing fees which RJ will pay to the Belgian authorities at Brussels airport and on other related matters.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### COMEDY

\* Comedy theatre work entitled "Flashes" (presented by the British theatre company "The Right Size" and a group of Jordanian actors) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:00 p.m.

### CONCERT

\* Two concerts at the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

### LECTURE

\* Lecture in Arabic by Mr. Kamal Boullata entitled "Expression Ties Between Granada and Jerusalem: A Reading of Four Jerusalem Painters in Exile" (accompanying with a slide show) at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Lawweibdeh at 5:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Jordan River Designs, a Save the Children project, exhibition of handicraft goods at the Forte Grand Amman Hotel, Mezzanine Floor (10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.).
- \* Exhibition of oil paintings by Kamal Boullata entitled "Daes, Quartets, and a Triangle" at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Lawweibdeh. Also showing "permanent exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 6432512).
- \* Exhibition by artist Nadim Mubsin at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* Exhibition of paintings by Nasir Thamir at Ain Art Gallery, Wadi Sagra St. (Tel. 644451).
- \* "The Golden Crown Exhibition" of Jordanian national products at the Amman Auto Exhibition, Airport Road.
- \* Exhibition of paintings by Syrian artist Walid Karisli at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).
- \* "The Diness Exhibit" — beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.

## Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation honours life achievers

By Angham Tamimi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation honoured several renowned people for life achievements earlier this week to encourage creative works.

On the periphery of this week's ceremony, at which four famous people were awarded for 1994, Foundation President Abdul Majid Shoman, also awarded winners of the Shoman Prize for Young Arab Scientists and the Shoman Prize for Teachers of Sciences at Jordan's primary and secondary schools.

Opening the ceremony, Mr. Shoman said this year's awards are a continuation of the foundation's policy of awarding creative works and honouring young as well as pioneer scientists whose achievements enrich science and technology, help develop

the society and improve people's standard of living.

Honoured for his 70 years of achievements, Jamal Badran (85), introduced himself as an expert of applied Islamic arts. "I re-embellished the stage of Salahuddin Ayyoubi in Jerusalem so as to revive it as before the fire that demolished it in 1969. The work took 2,250 hours," said Mr. Badran.

Mr. Badran also drew writings and ornaments in Al Aqsa Mosque and the mosque of the University of Jordan. He was a committee member charged with studying the ornamentation of King Abdullah Mosque in Amman.

Throughout, Mr. Badran has called for a return to Islamic Arab heritage.

Amin Saleh Mejaj was honoured for his achievements in medical science. Dr. Mejaj specialised in

children's medicine in 1954, and was the first Jordanian doctor to publish his research in international medical journals.

"I discovered a new disease in the 1960s that affects child refugees. It is a kind of anaemia that responds to vitamin E treatment," said Dr. Mejaj.

The late Mustafa Wahbi Al Tal was awarded a life achievement prize which was received by his son Ma'in.

As a lawyer and a high-ranking official the late Mr. Tal's poetry was also seen as greatly effective in the political movement.

Huda Mohammad Subhi Abu Ghanimeh received her late father's award on his behalf. Mr. Abu Ghanimeh was honoured for his variety of life achievements, such as great literary works and translations including poems and novels, his work in en-

gineering and medicine, and as the first physician to light his clinic by electricity using a generator in 1939.

On behalf of young Arab scientists, Ibrahim Mohammad Raghbi (a Jordanian) of the Arab Emirates Union (AEU) University presented a speech to the attendees in which he encouraged creative works, and thanked the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation for its years of encouragement as well.

"A secret committee of judges, headed by Usama Khalidi, evaluated the achievements of the nominees and selected 13 awardees," said Mr. Shoman.

The Human Sciences Award went to Mohammad Ali Sulaiman (Jordanian) of Yarmouk University, and Adel Mustafa Ahmad (Palestinian) of Al Najah University in Nablus.

The Biological Sciences

Award went to Huda Saleh Ammash (Iraqi) of Baghdad University, and Ibrahim Mohammad Raghbi (Jordanian).

The Chemistry Award went to Mohammad Suor (Egypt) of AEU University, and Mahmoud Yousef (Jordanian) of Yarmouk University.

The Geology and Physics Awards went to Sami Hussein Ali (Jordanian) of Yarmouk University, Selwan Kamal Al Ani (Iraqi) of Baghdad University, and Ibrahim Uthman (Jordanian) of Yarmouk University.

The Primary Medical Sciences Award went to Abdul Rahman Ubeid (Bahraini) of AEU University.

The Engineering Sciences Award went to Khalid Izzeddin (Egypt) of Cairo University.

The Mathematics and Computer Sciences Award

went to Mashhour Abdullah (Jordan) of Yarmouk University.

The Social Sciences Award went to Mahmoud Khidr (Palestinian) of Islamic University in Gaza.

The judges dispensed with awarding prizes for the first and second awards of the Teachers of Sciences category, but gave the third prize to Jumaa Mohammad of Thiban Secondary School for inventing an electric timer.

A second third prize went to Yusra Mahmoud of Rashadieh School for Girls for inventing a new car-brake system.

Riyadh Ali Jabr won the fourth prize for his new applications on the Archimedes' principle.

Finally, the fifth prize went to Umar Sa'id of Jana'a School for Boys for inventing a new principle of submarine operation.

## Petra scrolls show ancient form of real estate documentation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Real estate documentation appears to have been an important aspect of life in ancient Jordan as far back as 1,500 years ago, a preliminary reading of one of the 50 or so scrolls found in the ruins of a church near Petra has found.

Conservation work on the charred scrolls, which were found in December 1993, began early this month under the supervision of a five-member team from Finland led by Professor Jaakko Froese.

The work, being carried out in the conservation laboratory of the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman.

So far two large and three smaller scrolls have been unrolled and the team is working on five more, ACOR said in a statement on Tuesday.

Pierre Bikai, director of ACOR, said that the laboratory work on all scrolls was expected to be completed in six months.

The script of the docu-

ments found so far is Greek. "They were written by several different people in a variety of types of handwriting, sometimes very cursive and difficult to decipher," said the ACOR statement.

"Despite the fact that Greek was the language of Roman and Byzantine Arabia and Palestine, a variety of traditional Nabatean names have already been deciphered," it said.

The largest scroll opened so far was originally about 10 metres long and contained an inventory record of a dead person called Oobadianus and deals with contracts and agreements and loans, sales and inheritance of plots of land and houses, it said.

Another scroll record the will of a man suffering from severe illness while another dealt with the division of inherited property.

Mr. Bikai said the preliminary finding so far indicate that documenting real-estate ownership and drawing up wills were an important aspect of life during the period to which the scrolls have been dated — 580 A.D.

"During those days it was common for people to

keep such documents in the church," Mr. Bikai told the Jordan Times.

The properties referred to in the scrolls were located south of Petra and the "measures and location... with the names of all the neighbours are described with great accuracy," said the ACOR statement.

The scrolls were found near the 6th century Byzantine church in Petra.

The texts found in the scrolls constitute the largest group of written material from antiquity ever found in Jordan, ACOR said.

"They are especially important because they belong to the end of the 5th and beginning of the 6th centuries which is otherwise almost a blank page in the history of Petra," it said.

Some dates have already been uncovered on the papyrus fragments, such as the years of administration of the Byzantine consuls Flavius Johannes (A.D. 498 or 499), Flavius Patrius (A.D. 501) and Flavius Probus (A.D. 502).

The papyrus will yield important historical information about the people of Petra and their economic

and social situation. They will also give information on the question of what happened to the Nabataeans and Nabataean culture in Petra under early Byzantine period.

The fragile material will be photographed using special methods in order to make the black ink on the charred black papyrus easier to decipher, ACOR said.

The University of Helsinki and the University of Michigan will begin work immediately.

The papyrus texts were found at Petra in December 1993 in a room immediately adjacent to the Byzantine Church. The church excavation of 1992-93 produced spectacular mosaics in the aisles of the church.

The preservation of these first papyrus from Petra cannot be compared to that of the famous Dead Sea scrolls.

"While the latter were well-preserved, the Petra scrolls were carbonised in a fire which destroyed the church and affected the adjacent area of the building complex where they were kept," it said.

They were found crushed under and between the charcoal remains of the shelving on which they had apparently been stacked, and beneath nearly four metres of stone from the superstructure of the building. That building, like the church, collapsed in an earthquake, perhaps that which affected Petra in A.D. 551.

Because of their flattened and carbonised condition, the total number of scrolls found has yet to be determined. It is conservatively estimated that fifty may eventually be separated. Despite their state of preservation, the script is still remarkably legible.

In addition to the scrolls, carbonised basketry, textiles, copper hinges (or clasps), glass fragments, small bronze chains, and burned wooden discs were recovered. These indicate that the papyrus rolls were stored in textile sleeves and/or wooden tubes or boxes, possibly with inlaid glass decoration.

The scrolls were excavated by conservator Catherine Valentour and Zigmiew Fiema, chief archaeologist of the Petra

project, with the assistance of staff archaeologist Deborah Koorring and Suleiman Faraj of the Department of Antiquities. Excavations at the Petra church site are being conducted under the direction of Mr. Bikai of ACOR in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities.

The Petra scroll conservation project is sponsored by ACOR, The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, The University of Helsinki, The Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland, The Academy of Finland, The University of Michigan.

The projects is also supported by The National Endowment for the Humanities. Other contributions to the project have been made by the United States Information Agency (USIA), Robert Johnston, The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Excavation of the Petra Church during which the scrolls were found was funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).









Some Rwandan refugees wait to leave the Musange camp, near the southwestern Rwandan town of Gikongoro, aboard U.N. trucks. About 30 U.N. trucks evacuated over 2,000 refugees

wishing to return home despite their fear of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) (AFP photo)

## Heavy rains wash up corpses in Rwanda

KIGALI (R) — Heavy rains are unearthing corpses buried in shallow graves during three months of civil war and they pose a serious health problem, aid agencies said Tuesday.

"Corpses have begun resurfacing as the ground becomes waterlogged," the World Health Organisation (WHO) said in a statement, adding that the problem was impossible to determine.

"There are estimates that 50,000 bodies lie in superficial graves — both in the countryside and in the towns," said the statement, adding that the problem was bound to become acute.

Many of the estimated one million people massacred during a rampage by troops and militiamen after the assassination of President Juvenal Habyarimana on April 6 were buried in shallow graves.

Rains have begun in much of Rwanda and are expected to grow heavier and could last as long as nine months in areas, posing a health nightmare in a country where most clinics and hospitals were looted.

The WHO said large amounts of human waste in the capital Kigali was another health risk made worse by the rains and a sanitation engineer was needed to plan how to get rid of it.

Septic tanks in the capital also needed to be emptied. WHO Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima warned after visiting Rwanda last week that an acute shortage of staff, medicines and cash was hampering efforts to bring the country back to health.

The WHO said a safe blood transfusion system was

urgently needed because of an increase in HIV virus cases and runaway outbreaks of malaria, dysentery, meningitis and respiratory illnesses.

The HIV virus leads to full-blown AIDS which still has no cure.

The WHO statement said it expected World Bank funding for the first phase of a WHO project to train staff and supply equipment for blood screening and transfusion in Rwanda, where up to 40 per cent of people are estimated to be HIV positive.

Health experts in Kigali said an ambitious hygiene education campaign in camps for displaced people was essential to spread blunt messages on how best to avoid communicable illnesses.

"Dysentery continues to cause the greatest amount of morbidity and mortality in the refugee camps at Goma in eastern Zaire. More than a quarter of the deaths are children under five years of age," the WHO said.

Meanwhile, a senior Japanese government official said Tuesday reports that Hutu refugees living in camps near the Zairean border are preparing a new campaign of guerrilla warfare in Rwanda are widespread in Goma.

Katsunaki Suzuki, director-general of the International Peace Cooperation Department in the Japanese prime minister's office, said the reports coming from the camps were growing but that he had been unable so far to substantiate them.

Thousands of Hutu militia and troops of the former Hutu-dominated Rwandan army withdrew to camps in Zaire in July and there have

been sporadic reports since that they might be planning to return to wage war in Rwanda.

"I heard from many people rumours that ex-Rwandan soldiers in the camps were conducting military training or have hidden weapons, including heavy weapons, but nobody I met could substantiate those rumours," Mr. Suzuki said Tuesday.

U.N. special representative to Rwanda, Sharyar Khan said in a report to headquarters earlier this month that young men carrying large stocks of weapons and rations had been seen infiltrating remote and heavily forested parts of the country in "classic preparations for guerrilla war."

Mr. Khan, accompanied by Kofi Annan, U.N. undersecretary-general for peacekeeping operations, flew over the refugee camps in Zaire by helicopter Tuesday.

"They want to get an overall picture of the scale of the refugee situation," UNHCR spokeswoman Lyndall Sachs said.

She said UNHCR personnel had briefed the visitors on the security situation in the camps and "the need to remove the causes of fear in the camps of the process of return."

Mr. Suzuki was speaking to reporters at the end of a fact-finding mission to Goma ahead of the deployment of Japanese troops in the central African region.

movement.

Acknowledging the concern in Japan over the safety of the Japanese mission, he said he believed "the local security situation on the whole has been stabilised."

But he said he could not "exclude the possibility of sporadic excitement which may lead to violence."

The Japanese soldiers are to be deployed not in Rwanda itself but in countries around Rwanda to help the aid operations catering for the thousands of refugees there and will be allowed to open fire only in extreme situations for self-defence.

Asked whether this limitation might expose them to unnecessary risks, Mr. Suzuki said it was a condition of the legislation adopted by the Japanese parliament allowing troops to travel overseas.

"The members of the Japanese contingent are well aware of the limitation in which they have to work and they would take extra caution, compared to the Americans or the French, not to expose themselves to an awkward situation — and that might be a good way to conduct their work," Mr. Suzuki said.

The United Nations is meanwhile working on a plan to "move the soldiers and militia members from their camp at Mungwa outside Goma further into Zaire to prevent them from threatening the civilian refugees."

Many of the former soldiers and militia were responsible for massacres of the minority Tutsis and Hutu opposition figures before fleeing their country and leaders would be held to account on charges of genocide if they were to return.

## Former Italian minister arrested on mob charges

ROME (R) — Former Interior Minister Antonio Gava, once one of Italy's most powerful politicians, was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of links with the Naples mafia.

Police said Mr. Gava, a 64-year-old former Christian Democrat who has previously denied similar accusations, was picked up before dawn at his home in Rome and remained in custody at a military prison in the capital.

Mr. Gava, who held the country's most sensitive portfolio from 1988 to 1991, was the most prominent member of the political old guard to be arrested in Italy's judicial assault on corruption.

Dozens of other suspects

were also held including a former deputy chairman of parliament's justice commission. Socialist Raffaele Mastrototone, businessman and alleged clan boss of the Camorra, the Naples area mafia.

A statement by the public prosecutor's office in Naples said a total of 98 arrest warrants had been issued and assets worth hundreds of billions of lire (tens of millions of dollars) confiscated as part of the operation.

It said the arrests followed testimony from Carmine Alfieri, under-secretary of the Camorra clans for a decade until his arrest in 1992, and his leading lieutenant Pasquale Galasso.

Mr. Alfieri, who vested control of the clans in a turf war littered with corpses, broke organised crime's strict code of silence in March and turned state's evidence, saying he wanted "to bring myself closer to God."

Mr. Gava's power base in Naples, dubbed Italy's "kick-backs capital" by investigators, made him baron of one of the most powerful factions in the once mighty Christian Democrat Party.

The Interior Ministry gave Mr. Gava control over police, civil intelligence and the fight organised crime.

The Christian Democrats, in government since World War II until this year, never

once ceded the portfolio to other coalition parties because it was so powerful.

The current minister, Roberto Maroni, of the Northern League, the first non-Christian Democrat to hold the office, said Mr. Gava's arrest illustrated the revolution in Italian politics.

"It's now certain that there are no more idols, sacred cows or taboos in Italy that the judiciary is unable to demolish," Mr. Maroni told reporters.

Mr. Gava's lawyer Carlo Taormina said his client, who has been in poor health, was basically accused of building his political prestige in a trade-off of votes for favours with the Camorra.

## 9 killed in Beijing shootout

BEIJING (R) — An armed Chinese soldier ran amok in rush-hour traffic in Beijing Tuesday, triggering a gunbattle with police in which nine people were killed including the gunman and an Iranian diplomat and his son.

The soldier opened fire when he was thwarted in his attempt to hijack a jeep to Beijing's Tiananmen Square, witnesses said.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the gunman killed eight people and wounded 30 before being shot dead by police.

Officials branded the shooter a "scoundrel" but would not confirm reports by witnesses and police sources that he was a military man.

A police spokesman said police were among the dead but would not say how many.

The shooting started at a busy intersection after the driver of a jeep commandeered by the gunman outside the capital refused to take him to the vast square in the city centre, the driver told officials.

Xinhua said the gunman fired "indiscriminately at

passers-by with an automatic rifle."

Police and soldiers with automatic weapons pursued the black-clad gunman, armed with a military rifle and a large supply of ammunition, as he ran from the jeep and took over a taxi, a state employee who spoke to the jeep driver said.

The early morning shootout paralysed rush-hour traffic on one of Beijing's busiest highways outside one of four state compounds where foreign diplomats and journalists live.

The Iranian embassy said attaché Yusef Mohammadi Pishkarni was shot dead while driving his children to school. One of his sons, aged 10, was also killed.

The other, a 12-year-old, was shot and wounded as was one of his two daughters.

Iran immediately protested to China over the killings.

"The Chinese charge d'affaires was invited to the Foreign Ministry where Iran's concern and protest were relayed and the Chinese government was asked to inflict maximum punishment on the

perpetrators as soon as possible," Deputy Foreign Minister Alaeddin Boroujerdi told Tehran Radio.

The gunfire shattered the sunlit calm of a traditional holiday, the mid-autumn festival.

The state employee quoted the jeep's driver as saying the gunman commandeered the jeep at gunpoint in Tongxian, a heavily militarised eastern suburb.

"The soldier was a petty official in the People's Armed Police who had some kind of a conflict with his superior," he said. "He decided to arm himself and go to Tiananmen Square."

The driver did not say why the soldier wanted to go to the square, the symbol of Communist Party power that has often been the scene of acts of protest.

With soldiers in pursuit, the gunman then took over one of Beijing's yellow "breadbox cabs" which was already carrying passengers.

"The next thing I know, a man with a gun chased after my cab and jumped into the

front seat," the taxi driver told Reuters minutes after the shooting. Most of the windows of his cab were shot out but the driver was unhurt.

"It was chaos. There was shooting everywhere. Everyone was shooting. He was shooting. I just ducked way down in my seat like this and tried to drive. I could not see where I was going."

His cab immediately crashed into an embankment, where the gunman leapt out and fled, pursued by soldiers and police.

Repeated bursts of automatic gunfire blew out the windows of a public bus, hitting at least three passengers, and ripped through the Iranian diplomat's car, witnesses said.

Spent shell casings and trails of blood littered the second ring road, tracing the northerly route where soldiers chased the gunman.

The gunman was felled in a final shootout outside the International Post Office about 200 metres north of the shoot-up bus.

## Sinn Fein leader applies for U.S. visa

BELFAST (AFP) — Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams applied for a U.S. visa here Tuesday and press reports in Dublin said the visa had already been personally approved by President Bill Clinton.

The Irish Times, quoting official sources in Washington, said Mr. Clinton Sunday night authorised 14-day visas for Mr. Adams and two other officials of the Irish Republican Army's political branch. The spokesman at the U.S. embassy in London said that only Mr. Adams had applied for a visa at the U.S. consulate here, and that the application would be forwarded to Washington.

He declined to comment on the Irish Times report, which said the unconditional visas for Mr. Adams, Richard McAuley and Aiden McAteer had been recommended by the National Security Council last Friday after "tortuous negotiations" with British and Irish officials.

The paper said Mr. Adams was expected to address members of congressional committees and to be received at the National Security Council, but the U.S. embassy spokesman said he knew of no basis for the report.

"Technically Adams is ineligible for a visa under terms of the Immigration and Nationality Act which excludes persons who have engaged in terrorist activities," he added.

"If he is to get a visa a waiver has to be given and a waiver can only be given in Washington."

The spokesman said the same procedure would be followed as was last February, when a waiver was given "at a very high level" in Washington for a 48-hour visa that allowed Mr. Adams to attend a conference in New York.

The British government is opposing a visa for Mr. Adams until it is satisfied that the IRA's Sept. 1 ceasefire is permanent.

Meanwhile a policeman's wife, son and daughter were shot dead in Northern Ireland early Tuesday.

Police sources said guerrillas were not involved in the killings. A Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) spokesman described them as "a tragic shooting incident."

The woman, her 13-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter were shot at their home near Cookstown, County Tyrone, 35 miles (50 kilometres) from the capital, Belfast.

The RUC said the full circumstances were not yet known and a major investigation was under way.

British Broadcasting Corporation Radio said the alarm was raised by the woman's husband. She died shortly after officers of the RUC arrived at the house.

Quoting police sources, the BBC said the officer was later being comforted by colleagues at the town's police station.

Northern Irish Protestant politicians Tuesday protested about being kept in the dark over Britain's plans for the province.

## Zulu king sacks Buthelezi

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — King Goodwill Zwelithini plunged his volatile Zulu nation into turmoil Tuesday when he sacked his traditional prime minister, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and cancelled festivities to commemorate legendary King Shaka.

President Nelson Mandela moved quickly to calm the mood by telling reporters in Cape Town that he was "not alarmed" at the developments.

"We have the capacity to deal with that," he said.

A palace statement said King Zwelithini had late Monday severed ties with Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who, claiming ancestry, appointed himself Zulu prime minister at King Zwelithini's coronation in 1971.

A growing rift between the two Zulu leaders came to a head earlier Monday when IFP supporters stormed King Zwelithini's palace while the king was holding talks with Mr. Buthelezi and Mr. Mandela on the president's plans to attend the Shaka Day celebrations Saturday.

Angry IFP supporters, objecting to Mr. Mandela's presence at the ceremonies, performed war dances, trashed the palace grounds and threw stones at Mr. Mandela's helicopter. Palace security members who tried to restore order were threatened.

Mr. Buthelezi, who is also

home affairs minister in Mr. Mandela's government of national unity, had to intervene to ensure Mr. Mandela's safe departure.

Mr. Mandela said later that because his own safety could not be guaranteed, he had cancelled plans to attend the festivities held every year to commemorate the 19th century warrior credited with founding the Zulu nation.

Answering reporters' questions Tuesday, Mr. Mandela said that his intention had been to convert Shaka Day from a tribal to a "national affair," but added that he now realised not enough spadework had been done to achieve that.

King Zwelithini late Monday declared himself "insulted" because his property had been damaged and, through his Royal Committee, issued a statement in which he said he feared for his own life if he attended the celebrations.

"The king must not meet Buthelezi again," said the Royal Committee statement issued to the South African Agency SAPA. "All Shaka Day commemoration services are hereby cancelled."

The statement added: "The image of His Majesty was seriously damaged and his dignity and that of the Royal House and that of the nation of large was gravely impaired."

IFP Secretary General Ziba Jiyani said Tuesday he was "shocked" at the

announcement but warned that "no force on earth" would stop Zulus honouring Shaka.

"Shaka Day belongs to no man but is part of the Zulu spirit," Mr. Jiyani told SAPA.

The king's ousting of Mr. Buthelezi opens the way for the appointment as traditional prime minister of the IFP leader's long-time rival, Prince Mawenzi Zulu.

The appointment of Prince Mawenzi, a member of parliament with Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), had been mentioned as a possibility for several days.

Prince Mawenzi has always insisted that he is the rightful heir to Zulu premiership because he is the most senior prince in the royal family.

He acted as regent before King Zwelithini's coronation, but was sidelined when Mr. Buthelezi entrenched himself in the KwaZulu homelands, cut the king's share and placed the monarch under the control of the KwaZulu cabinet.

According to SAPA, Prince Mawenzi was party to Monday night's decision to sack Mr. Buthelezi.

At the root of the row, according to political analysts, is Mr. Buthelezi's determination to hold on to his traditional power base among Zulu conservatives and royalists and his fear that King Zwelithini is being wooed into the ANC camp.

## Another Abiola trial judge withdraws

KADUNA (AFP) — Justice Muri Okunola, one of the four judges hearing appeals filed by Nigeria's jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola has withdrawn from the case for undisclosed reasons, press reports said Tuesday.

His withdrawal, announced by the chief judge at the Kaduna Court of Appeal Justice Umaru Abdullahi, brings to two the number of judges who have withdrawn from cases involving the opposition leader.

On Aug. 16, Justice Abdullahi Mustapha withdrew from the main trial in which Mr. Abiola is being tried on treason charges at

the Federal High Court in Abuja.

Judge Mustapha said he was withdrawing because he had lost the confidence of the defence after making some "accidental slips" during the trial.

His withdrawal caused a two week delay in the hearings and effectively scuppered hopes that Mr. Abiola, the presumed winner of annulled presidential elections, might be freed.

Judge Abdullahi said that another of the judges in the Kaduna case, where Mr. Abiola is attempting to appeal the right of the Abuja court to try him, was absent

from court Monday to attend a relative's funeral.

The trial of Mr. Abiola dates to his arrest on June 23 on treason charges after he announced himself president on the strength of the poll held in June the previous year and declared the current military government illegitimate.

The election was ruled free and fair by international observers but the military refused to publish his results.

The Kaduna Court of Appeal meanwhile postponed until Oct. 6 the hearings in the two appeals filed by Mr. Abiola against his major treason trial.

## Greece offers \$2m reward for rebels

ATHENS (R) — Greece Tuesday offered a \$2 million reward for information that could lead to the arrest of guerrillas after Monday's bomb attack on a police bus which killed a top police officer and injured 10 people.

"A package of measures against terrorism is in the works and one of those is a half billion drachma (\$2 million) reward for information leading to the breaking up of terrorism in Greece," Public Order Minister Stelios Papathemelis said.

He told a news conference that a new task force made up of "determined" police officers would be formed to fight terrorism and that an existing anti-terrorist squad would be reinforced with specialists and new equipment but gave no details.

He also said Greek police were in touch with European and U.S. police forces and that he had asked Germany for access to the Stasi files, the former East German State Security which had links with guerrilla groups throughout Europe.

The extreme-left Revolu-

tionary Popular Struggle (ELA) group said in a letter to the newspaper Eleftherotipia Tuesday that it bombed the bus because police were "the local representatives of the CIA" — the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

The guerrilla group vowed that policemen would be a constant target and said in the eight-page letter they would "strike in future, without warning the forces of suppression (police)... regardless of their sex or age."

Monday's blast wrecked the police bus when it stopped in the suburb of Perissos on a routine trip to police headquarters. The bomb shattered windows in nearby houses and shops.

Apostolos Velios, a department head at the Athens Aliens Bureau, was boarding the bus when the bomb went off by remote control. He died in hospital from head wounds. Another police officer lost his left eye and may lose the other.

The message from ELA, which emerged in the 1970s with bomb attacks on foreign

businessmen, also claimed responsibility for letter bomb attacks earlier this year against the German Goethe Institute, the French Institute, the European Union offices and the Belgian embassy.

Greece's urban guerrillas, among Europe's most deadly, have eluded and mocked police for the past 20 years.

November 17, another leftist group which has killed 20 Greeks and foreigners since 1975, has used both rockets and remote-controlled bombs in attacks on police, foreign diplomats and businesses.

Mr. Papathemelis said some 3,000 possible targets were being guarded "but it is impossible to put a police escort on everybody like simple Public Order Ministry employees."

Labour Minister Yannis Skoularikis, who served as public order minister in the 1980s, said in a television interview that Greek police did not have the skills or the means to arrest the guerrillas.

"I am not optimistic and a breakthrough may only come up by accident," he said.

## U.S., Russia sign new nuclear safety document

VIENNA (R) — Member states of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), led by the United States and Russia, signed a new nuclear safety document Tuesday designed to improve security at atomic reactors worldwide.

The Convention on Nuclear Safety, drawn up by 84 IAEA members in June, applies to land-based civil nuclear power plants and seeks to avert accidents such as the 1996 explosion at Chernobyl, the world's worst civil nuclear disaster.

U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary described the convention as a further example of international cooperation following the end of the cold war.

"This is an historic day... we are clearly recognising our international obligations with many separate nations with the same goal of nuclear safety in mind," Ms. O'Leary said before signing the convention on behalf of the United States.

"I believe we are actualis-

and multilateral collabora-

tion," she said. A total 485 nuclear power plants were operating or being built around the world in 1993, according to IAEA statistics.

IAEA Director General Hans Blix, speaking before the signing ceremony at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, said the convention will require signatories to establish laws and regulations to govern safety at nuclear power plants.

"It is the first legal instrument to address directly the issue of safety of nuclear installations worldwide," Mr. Blix said.

Work on the convention began in 1991 after the fall of the iron curtain made the former Communist Bloc's ageing and technically backward nuclear power plants more accessible to scrutiny by the West, already shaken by Chernobyl.

Signatories of the convention are required to submit a report on atomic installations

carry out improvements to upgrade the safety of sites.

"If such upgrading cannot be achieved, plans should be implemented to shut down the nuclear installation as soon as practically possible," the convention says.

Such an obligation means states like Ukraine having to close its Chernobyl-style reactors if considered to be faulty.

But critics said the convention lacked tough measures to force a country to comply with the regulations.

It was still unclear whether Ukraine, which now owns the Chernobyl plant following the collapse of the Soviet Union, would sign the document.

The convention will come into force 90 days after 22 countries sign the document. Seventeen of the countries must be states which possess a nuclear reactor.

Early signatories included Britain, France, Japan, Germany Canada, South Africa, India, Pakistan, and South Korea all of which operate

nuclear power plants. China

said Monday it also intended to sign the convention.

IAEA officials said the 22-nation threshold would probably be reached later Tuesday. National parliaments will also have to ratify the convention.

The ceremony took place on the sidelines of the IAEA's 38th annual conference which began Monday.

Russia's Nuclear Energy Minister Viktor Mikhailov said the convention could lead to greater assistance from nuclear states to developing countries which aim to produce electricity from nuclear reactors.

"In my opinion, the 21st century is going to be a century of nuclear power development balanced with environmental protection," Mr. Mikhailov said.

The convention calls on countries setting up a new nuclear power plant to carry out safety assessments before building begins and to ensure on-site and off-site emergency plans are routinely tested.



## Jordan Times

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

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## When reason prevails

NOW THAT the United States has firmly set its military foot in Haiti without firing a shot in its avowed quest to "restore democracy" to the troubled Caribbean nation, a precedent has been set not only in that part of the world but also in other conflict-plagued regions. The lesson learned from the Haiti experience is simple: Military solutions are not always inevitable, and dialogue, if exercised with goodwill and in good faith, could avert bloodshed and violence.

Twenty-three countries, including Jordan, have lined up behind the U.S.-led initiative in Haiti under the umbrella of the United Nations if only because the ultimate objective is peace and stability for the people of Haiti and the restoration of basic human freedoms in the country, including the people's right to be protected from victimisation and pogroms of the kind that the world saw with the military regime in power in Port-au-Prince.

Any deviation from that objective and any use of massive force to "tame" Haiti, as some American politicians have put it, will be a severe blow to the very noble concept of human freedoms that prompted the countries to accept the U.S. request to be part of the international force to be deployed in the Caribbean country.

It is a fact that not many countries were exactly enthusiastic about the American initiative if only because of the debacle that they saw in Somalia. But the success of diplomacy in Haiti has rekindled hopes that thorny problems that threaten to explode into full-blown violence, pitting an army against another could be tackled with patience and understanding of the issues involved.

As the sole superpower of the world, the U.S. has the moral responsibility to ensure that American forces and the contingents of the 23 countries that are expected to follow leave Haiti in the shortest possible time while ensuring that they achieve what they are going in for.

It is indeed a tribute to the statesmanship and diplomatic skills of former President Jimmy Carter that a bloodless solution to the Haiti crisis has been found. The ex-president achieved in two days what the administration could not achieve in months, and it would not simply be a pity but a catastrophe if that achievement went to waste because of short-sightedness.

The most daunting task that awaits the Americans is disarming Haitian militiamen and nobody could underestimate the dangers that lurk for the young American soldiers who are in Haiti today. While one could hope to convince a disciplined army of the wisdom in surrender in a situation of no other escape, it is a totally different story when it comes to gangs of unruly gunmen who have had the unchallenged run of the land for decades.

It might be too early to judge the course of events that Washington has in mind for Haiti, but one thing is clear: The people of Haiti and the world at large are anxiously awaiting the promised American-led effort to set in place an irreversible process of democracy, starting with the restoration of law and order and respect for the rules of the land. Anything less than that would be throwing cold water on the hopes of the international community and an anti-climax to the much-touted "showdown in Haiti."

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

NO TEMPTATION in the form of economic projects should lure away Jordan from clinging to its national demands of liberated territory and fair share in the river waters, said Taher Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour Tuesday. The Israelis take delight in alluding to economic benefits peace and stability but they tend to steer carefully away from discussing substantial topics like water, territory and borders, he said. Let the Jordanian negotiators beware of these tactics and bear in mind that the Israelis have not yet budged one inch from their stand and have failed to discuss such vital topics like the return of refugees to their Palestinian homeland and the return of Jordanian land and water to their lawful owners, said the writer. Such issues are closely linked with the economic development about which the Israelis keep talking but have taken no step to settle, he stressed. A recent report about 150 Jewish settlers who have sent in a request to establish a settlement on the East Bank, should serve as a reminder to Jordan that the move can only mean that Israel is not only contemplating the perpetuation of its occupation but also seeking to expand its domain in Jordanian land, added the writer. Let not the cancellation of several millions of our foreign debts and the talk about economic plans, warned the writer, detract Jordan from its basic legitimate and national demands.

ADDRESSING CASES of corruption in Jordan, a writer in Sawt Al Shaab said that it is common knowledge that certain persons in high positions were reported to have abused their authority and committed fraudulent acts, pocketing in some cases not less than a million dinars. Nazih Qusous said that except for the case of the employees in the lands department, who were tried and imprisoned some years ago for corruption or receiving bribes, no one has heard of other cases in which senior officials were tried for similar crimes. The writer said the public is aware of the fact that the senior officials always get away with their crimes by one way or another while small officials who steal as little as JD 50 soon find themselves behind bars.

## Washington Watch

# Marion Barry: A symbol of Washington's racial divide

By Dr. James Zogby

MARION BARRY's surprisingly strong victory in the Washington, DC mayoral primary exposed the deep racial divisions that plague the United States and its capital.

Mr. Barry, who had served as mayor from 1978 to 1990, was forced from office after being convicted of drug use. He was video-taped by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in a hotel room with a woman smoking cocaine. The video-taped evidence against Mr. Barry was televised nationwide, bringing deep embarrassment to the mayor, the city and its African-American residents.

Mr. Barry was convicted in 1990, served a year in prison, and then in 1992 emerged from prison and won election to Washington's city council as representative of the city's poorest neighbourhood.

The Marion Barry who left prison in 1991 was, on one level, a transformed man. Instead of business suits he now wears an African-style shirt and cap. He adopted and sometimes uses an African name, "Anwar Amal." He brought a new religious zeal to his message, a combination of Christian and African nationalist themes. Mr. Barry claims he has been reborn. "I've fallen," he admitted, "But I've been restored. I can be a symbol of hope and redemption to all who are down and want to be lifted up."

The message and the pride in African roots were especially appealing to both the poor in Washington and to the angry African-American professional class. In the image of Mr. Barry, caught by white police officers, tried in a white court and humiliated by a white-dominated media, they saw something of themselves. Voting for the new "redeemed" Marion Barry gave vent both to their hopes and their anger.

It was principally these two groups which provided Mr. Barry with his margin of victory last week. Although his opponents were also African-Americans, they were clearly supported by the city's white power structure: business, the media and Congress.

Mr. Barry handily defeated his two opponents, winning with 47 per cent of the vote. His nearest opponent won only 37 per cent of the vote, and the other (the current mayor) garnered only a dismal 13 per cent of the vote. Even more telling is the fact that Mr. Barry won the election with almost no white support. He won less than 1 per cent of the white vote in the city, while capturing more than 70 per cent of the African-American vote.

These statistics are typical of the deep divide between white and black residents of the city. The leading African-American elected official (not a Barry supporter) noted, "We have two cities here: one black, one white. One city has been touched by crime and drugs and a daily crisis. So they view things quite differently. Mr. Barry was able to appeal to them with a focus on redemption."

And a prominent African-American attorney told me, "Barry's story is like mine. I've been blocked by whites all my life. I know what he did — but voting for Barry was like telling whites 'you can't do it to us anymore.'"

On the other hand, a white law enforcement official observed on the day after the election, "The city died last night. Around the country and the world people will look at Washington as a joke." Another white businessman said, "It's a real embarrassment. Businesses will leave the city. What were they thinking when they voted for that man?"

As the election and the reactions to it have demonstrated, Washington is one of the most racially divided cities in the U.S. Unlike many other major cities, Washington is physically divided in half. Rock Creek Park which cuts the city through the middle also serves as the line of racial divide.

While the city is almost 70 per cent African-American and 27 per cent white, on the western side of Rock Creek Park the city is 88 per cent white and only 6 per cent African-American. The other divide is the Anacostia River which splits the eastern part of the city in half. On the eastern side of the river the city is 95 per cent African-American and only 4 per cent white (and most of the whites are poor recent-immigrant Latinos).

These population statistics may come as a surprise to

visitors to the U.S. capital. The best known parts of the city, the government buildings, the world-famous museums, the monuments, downtown and the Georgetown areas are all white. Visitors, therefore, see Washington as a wealthy and majority white city — but this is not the reality of Washington DC.

Historically, Washington, DC is a part of the "South." The racial apartheid system that governed most of the south of the U.S. and a rigidly enforced separation of the races was only officially brought to a close in Washington 30 years ago in 1964. The scars and legacy of that system have yet to depart with it.

The average income in the white areas of Washington is \$49,000 per year. In Anacostia it is less than \$23,000 per year.

The unemployment level in Washington as a whole stands at 4.5 per cent, while in Anacostia it is almost 20 per cent. And with poverty come the problems of crime, drugs and violence. Most of Washington's nearly 400 yearly murders take place in African-American neighbourhoods. At the same time, officials estimate that 80,000 Washington residents abuse drugs or alcohol — almost 14 per cent of the city's total population.

Yet the most disturbing statistic of all is that in any given day in Washington 42 per cent of the city's African-American men between the ages of 18 and 35 are either in jail, on probation or awaiting trial.

**The most disturbing statistic of all is that in any given day in Washington 42 per cent of the city's African-American men between the ages of 18 and 35 are either in jail, on probation or awaiting trial.**

Compounding these difficulties is the fact that Washington is not permitted to fully govern itself. It has what Congress terms "limited self-rule" (and what *The New York Times* calls the U.S.'s "last colony"). The city's residents elect their own officials (a right it has enjoyed only since the 1970s), but it cannot levy new taxes, pass new laws or even set tax fares without the approval of a special congressional committee.

The annual sight of Washington's African-American Mayor going before the largely white U.S. Congress to request financial assistance to pay for the city's budget is, at best, awkward — to many it is a humiliation that causes deep resentment.

Marion Barry had served as Mayor for 12 years. In fact, in 1978, he was the first elected mayor of the city. In the first half of his mayoralty he proved to be quite proficient. He built a black-white coalition that brought new prosperity to the city. He provided incentives for the business community that began a building boom in the downtown area. With the increased revenues created by that upsurge in business activity, he added thousands of Washington's blacks to the city's payroll and started a summer jobs programme that employed thousands of poor black youths. He easily won reelection in 1982.

But by the 1986 election signs of strain became evident not only in the Barry administration but in the mayor himself. A number of his key allies and officials in his administration, were convicted of corruption. While the mayor himself was never so accused, he was bounded by federal investigators. His weakness for women and alcohol also began to affect his leadership. And with that, the efficiency of his administration began to crumble.

As the Washington media ran front-page stories focusing

on every Mr. Barry flaw and misdeed, the city's African-American residents became indignant. "Why," they asked, "does the white media want to destroy Barry while they do nothing to expose Reagan?" Or "why not give Barry the problems the same benign neglect given to Ted Kennedy?" It was, as one African-American professional described it, "justified paranoia" based in part on fear and in part on a history of racism.

Even at the Barry administration's lowest point, most African-Americans refused to condemn their mayor, since that they felt to do so would, in effect, be to agree with the white media and "power structure." After all the scandals and the exposed corruption and inefficiencies of Mr. Barry's last four years in office, a Washington Post poll found that while 60 per cent of whites thought that the Barry administration was corrupt, only 20 per cent of African-Americans would agree with that assessment.

Mr. Barry's comeback and his appeal to African-American voters can be best understood in this context. He is, for many African-Americans, an example of the persistent black male. He was hounded and persecuted. He became weak and fell. He then found his inner strength and his cultural roots. He became strong and clean, and now he's back and redeemed and boldly challenging the power structure, and ready to lead.

And in a city with so many poor, so many on drugs, with so many in pain and in need of redemption, and with so many others angry at racial discrimination — Mr. Barry has become a symbol of hope, a channel for their frustration. Whites, of course, don't understand this feeling at all. To most it is a farcical mystery, even a frightening one. But that is only more evidence of how deep the racial divide is in Washington.

Can Mr. Barry win in November's general election? And if he wins, can he really govern the city, restore hope to its downtrodden and at the same time work towards racial harmony?

His victory seems assured. His opponent is a white Republican woman, Carol Schwartz. She is the same woman he defeated in 1986 by a 2-1 margin. Even in that election the vote was divided almost completely along racial lines.

The difference between Mr. Barry's first election in 1978 and this one is obvious. In that election, Mr. Barry had white support, while in this one he will have virtually none. In that election he had a special appeal to whites as well as blacks, and that, too, is gone. But Mr. Barry, on the day after the election, sought to reach out to whites, assuring them, "I'm the best person for Washington. I know best how to protect their investments, their homes, their businesses. I know best how to save our city..." Will he do this, and will whites trust him? That is unknown.

What is known is that his level of support among the majority of the city's population is so strong that he should be able to win again in November. He has the most effective (some would say the only) political grass roots machine in the city. He is also a political genius, with his well-known ability to sell himself and his message.

But can Mr. Barry govern? One African-American analyst, Professor Ron Walters of Washington's prestigious Howard University, says that Mr. Barry can succeed. Mr. Barry has always been open to bringing talented administrators to work with him, and if he continues this pattern he can bring about the same efficiency in government that characterised his first term in office.

What will determine his success or failure this time is whether or not those who surround Mr. Barry protect him from his weaknesses and stop him if he embarks once again upon the self-destructive path that brought him down in 1990.

In his last four years in office there were clear signs of the personal problems plaguing the man, but on one around the Mayor stopped his fall. This time they had better. Marion Barry has, for better or worse, become a symbol of hope to tens of thousands. If Mr. Barry falls again, the toll will be devastating not only to the mayor but to the city as well.

## Mitterrand fails the unforgiving test of history

By William Pfaff

PARIS — In the end, it is a question of character. During nearly a half-century, French President Francois Mitterrand has constructed a political career founded on personal ambition and dominated by his sense of rivalry with Charles de Gaulle.

Mr. Mitterrand is nearing the end of his second seven-year term as president of the Fifth Republic, which De Gaulle founded. De Gaulle never completed one full term, resigning his office in 1969 as old age closed on him, and in the aftermath of the popular upheaval of May 1968.

Mr. Mitterrand now is old, too. Old and very ill, from prostate cancer. He said last week of his illness, "I think that it will be obliging enough to allow me to finish my mandate" — which ends next spring. He said that to die was less a concern to him than no longer to live, as he has books he wants to write. "But a book takes time, and I no longer have much of that."

He is older, and now he sees that his effort to control how history will regard him has failed. He recently allowed himself to be interviewed for a book on his youth and the war years. This has just come out. Last week he gave two long newspaper interviews dealing with the same subjects. Last week, he was interviewed for an hour and a half on television. The result has been an abrupt disintegration of his reputation, and of the authority of his presidency as well. He has tried to explain

his connection to the wartime Vichy government, his right-wing associations as a young man, and his lasting relationship with René Bousquet, head of the Vichy police, accused of crimes against humanity in 1983, held to be responsible for the dispatch of French and foreign Jews to Nazi death camps.

The president's response to the television questioning was defiant, and seemingly calm, although his hands constantly twisted. Yet, as the evening went on, what began as an interview became an interrogation, and Mr. Mitterrand's answers became a plea for sympathy that he be judged with consideration for his family and upbringing, the context of the times, his constant commitment, he said, to social justice. He insisted that he was at peace with himself, and that he hoped to be regarded as having one more in his life that was positive than was negative.

It was moving in a way, but in the end there seemed more to be pitied than to be admired. Everyone had known that Mr. Mitterrand was compromised by having served Marshal Pétain until 1942. Later he was part of the Resistance. But his conversion turns out to have come only in 1943, when the tide of the war had changed, and his conduct in the Resistance served to launch his postwar political career.

His comments on Vichy were equivocal. He claims to have known nothing of Vichy's anti-Semitic legislation and deportations of Jews. Vichy's first anti-Semitic law, which ex-

cluded Jews from the public service — of which he was a part — was passed in October 1940.

Also last week, Le Monde published a devastating analysis of the political thought of the young Mitterrand, as he expressed it in Vichy publications during 1942-1943, by the historian Claire Andrieu. She concluded that while the documentation is incomplete, she is, as a historian, compelled to draw the provisional conclusion that on the basis of his own writings, Mr. Mitterrand was until April 1943 "among the most intransigent of Pétainists."

Mr. Mitterrand undoubtedly did no worse during the war years than many others, and a great deal better than most. But his subsequent career as defender of republican values and human rights against the forces of reaction fits uneasily with what now has been confirmed. The picture of opportunism and political cynicism that emerges goes much beyond the reputation Mr. Mitterrand had always enjoyed as "the Florentine," the consummate calculator. His Socialist followers, certainly, are now demoralised.

He always considered De Gaulle his challenge. He says that he clashed with De Gaulle at their first meeting, in Algiers in 1943. He opposed De Gaulle in the postwar political struggle, and made a successful career in the changing coalitions of the Fourth Republic. He was a minister in governments waging the Indochina and Algerian wars, and ran against De Gaulle in the presidential election

of 1965. He condemned De Gaulle's Fifth Republic as "a permanent coup d'état." His election to the presidency of that republic in 1981, and reelection in 1988, seemed a victory over his old enemy.

But in the end it has proven a defeat. History will certainly acknowledge the great accomplishment of Mr. Mitterrand, which has been to modernise the French left and turn it into a mainstream force in French political life. But he has left the Socialist Party divided, and discredited by a series of financial scandals reaching into the presidential palace itself.

History will deal more harshly with the man himself, who made use of the old parties and forces of the left to advance himself, and then cast them aside. He made equally cynical use of the right, lending indirect support to the extremist National Front in order to weaken the mainstream right.

De Gaulle escaped partisan definition, saying that he served a "certain idea of France": that "it must aim high and hold itself straight, on pain of mortal danger." His acknowledged opportunism was in that cause. He was a man of principle, who drew others to principled action.

The liberal journalist Jean Daniel has said that by his wartime leadership, "De Gaulle allowed me to remain myself." Mr. Mitterrand's loyal followers today feel themselves diminished by their political commitment. That contrast tells it all.

Los Angeles Times.

## LETTERS

### Flying with RJ — a 'sad ritual'

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to report to you a situation regarding Jordan's national airline. I have had several experiences in the past few years of flying with Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJ). Unfortunately, most of those were negative experiences.

Among those problems is the frequent overbooking of flights, and the resulting cancellation of reserved and confirmed bookings by myself and many other passengers. Another issue is the delay in departures and arrivals. For five years now, I have not boarded a single RJ flight that departed as scheduled, especially on the Dubai-Amman route, and return. Boarding the aircraft from the terminal building is often a chaotic experience. RJ's ground staff have a lot to learn in organising and assigning priority to boarding, especially to families with children.

Moreover, I have always specifically requested a non-smoking seat whenever I travelled. On Royal Jordanian flights, this right is not respected as flight attendants do not enforce it against frequent violation. To protest to an RJ attendant regarding this and other matters of concern is often futile. Add to this the general level of service which frankly leaves a lot to be desired! If the flight attendants are not busy chatting amongst themselves, they are invariably doing something more important than catering to passengers' needs.

Recently, on Aug. 16, to be exact — I had a confirmed booking to fly with RJ from the new airport of Al Ain in the United Arab Emirates to Amman. I was contacted on Aug. 15 and was informed that due to the fact that only five passengers had reservations from Al Ain, the airline would not open its counter at Al Ain airport to board them. Instead, we were "told" to go to Abu Dhabi and fly from there hours later. When I asked for transportation between the two cities which are 140-kms apart, my request was turned down. When I even faxed RJ's CEO for action, no one bothered to rectify the situation.

Jordan's civil aviation authorities should do something about these violations of norms and practices of air travel. Royal Jordanian Airlines should not put passengers last if they truly belong to the community of respected international air carriers. I think that I speak for many other silent passengers for whom flying with RJ has become a sad ritual.

Professor Badran Al Badran,  
United Arab Emirates University  
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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## U.S. expands Haiti control

(Continued from page 1)

tough denunciation of the accord.

"He didn't trash it either," said a State Department official who asked not to be named. "There were lots of indications that it (the statement) would be something much more heavily critical."

The political situation also brightened for Mr. Clinton after the House of Representatives gave muted support late Monday to the peacekeeping mission. A similar draft resolution was circulating in the Senate.

A new poll released Tuesday showed that 52 per cent of Americans approved of the agreement and 32 per cent disapproved. But the survey commissioned by CNN television and the newspaper USA Today also had bad news for Mr. Clinton.

Seventy per cent gave credit for the agreement to Mr. Clinton. Only 15 per cent credited Mr. Clinton.

U.S. Marines landed Tuesday in Northern Haiti, expanding the peacekeeping mission to the country's second largest city. In the capital, Haitians emboldened by the American presence began challenging local police on the streets.

Angry Haitians threw grapefruit-sized rocks at Haitian police at the docks in Port-au-Prince. Police fired automatic weapons into the air to disperse more than 5,000 people in Cite Soleil, a stronghold of the exiled president.

The displays of open defiance near the port and airport underline the precariousness of the U.S. military presence in Haiti even as its force took control of Cap-Haitien. On Monday, the first troops moved into Port-au-Prince.

U.S. commanders say Haitian police are in charge of keeping control of the streets.

American soldiers were on hand at some of Tuesday's disturbances, but did not intervene.

The violence in Cite Soleil broke out while a U.S. military convoy was going through the slums. At least a dozen Haitian police officers went into the crowd swinging clubs and several shots were fired in the air from automatic weapons, sending the crowd scrambling.

Some Haitians bopped onto two U.S. personnel carriers,

chanting "Cedras has to go. Biampy has to go. Michel Francois has to go" — references to the military coup leaders who overthrew Mr. Aristide in 1991.

Several thousand demonstrators, chanting anti-military slogans and "Aristide is going to save us," had been heading towards the international airport.

Earlier Tuesday some 1,800 Marines of the Wasp amphibious group arrived in Cap-Haitien with a mission to secure the port of Haiti's second-largest city 260 kilometres north of here to pave the way for more troops to flow in, a spokesman said.

More than 6,000 U.S. troops were to be in Haiti by midnight Tuesday, said Colonel Barry Willey, spokesman for the Operation Uphold Democracy in Port-au-Prince.

He said U.S. troops had not encountered any trouble or civil disturbances since they began arriving Monday.

They have orders to work closely with the Haitian army and police force.

Col. Willey said that U.S. and Haitian troops will likely make joint patrols.

"We will not be patrolling unilaterally," he said.

In Washington, Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, acknowledged that the first demonstration Monday "was broken up, sometimes maybe a little too harshly, by the Haitian police and military."

Earlier in the briefing, U.S. President Clinton praised the Haitian military leaders for their cooperation with U.S. troops. "Our troops are working with full cooperation with the Haitian military," he said.

Mr. Clinton did not mention Mr. Aristide, who U.S. officials say will return to power after the military leaders step down.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who brokered the deal with Haiti's military to avert a U.S. invasion, said he told Haitian strongman Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras "that I was ashamed of my country's policy" towards the Caribbean country.

One result of the agreement was the resignation Monday of the U.N. special envoy for Haiti, a day after Mr. Carter accomplished what had been Dante Caputo's mission for almost two years — persuading Haiti's army leaders to step down.

## From lawyers to tabloids, O.J. saga has cash flowing

By Matt Spetalnick  
Reporter

LOS ANGELES — Who says crime doesn't pay?

While O.J. Simpson may not be profiting from his notoriety, defence lawyers, movie producers, hook publishers, supermarket tabloids, souvenir vendors and even key witnesses are cashing in.

Little more than three months after Mr. Simpson's ex-wife and a friend were found lying in a pool of blood, a cottage industry has sprung up to feed America's obsession with what has become one of the most sensational murder cases of the century.

Consider that 95 million viewers were glued to their TV sets June 17 as the football legend led police on a bizarre, slow-motion chase, and by some calculations, the market has barely been tapped.

"This is a soap opera and a celebrity murder mystery all wrapped together," said Leo Braudy, author of the "The Frenzy of Renown," a study of fame in America. "It's pushed a button in the national psyche... and that opens up all kinds of opportunities."

In the media frenzy surrounding the case, "check-book journalism" is flourishing as supermarket scandal sheets and tabloid TV programmes scramble for exclusives with anyone connected to the ball of fame or his alleged victims, Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

The National Enquirer offered \$1 million to Mr. Simpson's friend Al Cowling to tell his story, according to editor-in-chief Iain Calder. Mr. Cowling, who accompanied Simpson on his flight from justice, turned the money down.

But several other key witnesses have sold to the highest bidder, and some legal experts say that may have left their testimony irreparably tainted.

At a preliminary hearing in July, the first two prosecution witnesses dropped a bombshell, testifying that Mr. Simpson had purchased a knife at their cutlery store and that they had given their account to the Enquirer of \$12,500.

California legislators were so outraged that they passed a bill last month barring prospective witnesses from selling their stories before testifying in criminal cases.

Now that jury selection is set to begin Sept. 26, both sides will be ready to weed out anyone who shows signs of wanting a seat on the panel for the financial rewards or TV guest spots that might later come their way.

Defending the tabloids' practices, Mr. Calder said: "These people... told the truth for money. What's the deal? I don't think we've perverted the process in the slightest."

Brian "Kato" Kaelin — a struggling actor who had been living in Mr. Simpson's guest house — is also capitalising on his instant fame. His testimony at Mr. Simpson's nationally televised preliminary hearing led to a guest-host spot on the cable-TV show "talk soup," and movie offers are now rolling in.

About the only person connected to the case who is not making money is Mr. Simpson himself. In fact, his ballooning legal fees are expected to strain — if not drain — his considerable net worth, once estimated at \$10 million.

Proclaiming his innocence, Mr. Simpson has

hired the best defence money can buy — a "dream team" of famed attorneys such as Lee Bailey and Alan Dershowitz plus a supporting cast of investigators and experts. "The final bill is going to be astronomical," said Loyola Law School professor Laurie Levenson.

But Mr. Simpson's lawyers aren't the only ones finding work. Dozens of criminal attorneys and legal scholars have been hired to provide play-by-play commentary for TV audiences.

Scandal is always good business for the tabloids, but during prime weeks of O.J. coverage, circulation jumped to levels not seen since Elvis Presley died. Conventional news outlets have also enjoyed what one TV executive called "the O.J. boost."

Three instant paperbacks are already on store shelves, and a Fox television movie will air in November.

But it was left to an L.A. comedy writer to come up with a way to profit from the gallow humour spreading nationwide. His creation: an O.J. joke hot-line. For 99 cents-a-minute, callers can hear such tasteless offerings as: "It couldn't have been O.J., the huffalo bills have a history of choking."

Thanks to Mr. Simpson's notoriety, prices for his football memorabilia are soaring. An O.J. doll that sold for \$10 in 1975 is now reported selling for \$300. T-shirts reading "Turn the Juice Loose" are going for \$10 apiece, and tour guides are charging to take visitors to the murder scene.

And the Simpson saga has another bizarre claim to fame — its own trading cards featuring the football great and his alleged victims.



O.J. Simpson

## Israeli troops kill man

(Continued from page 1)

said in a speech to the national press club.

Dr. Shaath said the peace process in the Middle East would be irreversible if it continued for another 12 months. But political advancement had to be supported by economic progress.

Otherwise, Palestinians, whose unemployment rate approaches 60 per cent, could seek the "magical answers" offered by fundamentalist groups, he warned.

**Self-rule officer held**

Israeli security officers on the West Bank have arrested a Palestinian police officer at the wheel of a stolen car, police said Tuesday.

Captain Munir Barghouti, a guard for Palestinian Culture Minister Yasser Abed Rabho, was arrested late Monday on the outskirts of Jericho in a car stolen in Israel, they said.

His arrest came a day after Israeli insurance unions accused Palestinian police in Gaza and Jericho of driving stolen Israeli vehicles.

The Palestinian authority has asked Israeli police to hand over Mr. Barghouti for trial before a Palestinian court, they said.

Shmuel Golomb, managing director of the Union of Insurance Companies, said Monday that police had compiled a report showing that their Palestinian counterparts in Jericho alone were driving at least 17 cars stolen in Israel.

Mr. Golomb said 22,000 cars are stolen every year or 1.5 per cent of the total. "A large number of these turn up on the other side of the green line," which separates Israel from the occupied territories, he said.

## Algeria resumes dialogue

(Continued from page 1)

tact had now been made between the released FIS leaders and the chiefs of "various armed" Islamic groups with a view to formulating a possible truce.

The five parties attending the talks all support involving the FIS in negotiations to end the country's crisis. They are the FLN, the former sole ruling party, the Movement for Democracy in Algeria (MDA), the nationalist grouping of former President Ahmed Ben Bella, and three moderate Islamic groups — the Algerian Party of Renewal, the Islamic Society Movement and the Movement for Islamic Rebirth.

Three parties that favour Western-style democracy, which stayed away from the earlier meetings with the government again boycotted Tuesday's meeting.

These include the Socialist Front of Hocine Ait Ahmed, which favours including the FIS in any broad political dialogue, and two groups which oppose this — the Rally for Culture and Democracy of Said Sadi and the communist Ettahadi Movement.

The government last week freed FIS President Abassi Madani and Vice-President Ali Belhadj from Blida military prison and placed them under house arrest at a secret location.

Before his release, Mr. Madani had proposed a truce to President Zeroual in exchange for the freeing of all jailed Islamic militants.

An unidentified Islamic official was quoted Tuesday to the El Hwar daily as saying that Mr. Madani and Mr. Belhadj still viewed themselves as in "detention" and demanded their "total freedom."

## Text of the statute of the Higher Authority for Purchases

Following is an unofficial translation of the statute of the Highest Authority for Purchases as endorsed by the Cabinet on Saturday:

The Higher Authority for Purchases regulations — 1994

The following are regulations set by the Higher Authority for purchases — 1994 in accordance with articles 114 and 120 of the Jordanian constitution:

**Article 1:** This regulation will be called the Higher Authority for Purchases regulation of 1994 and will be into force once it has been published in the Official Gazette.

**Article 2:** The following terms will have their respective corresponding, meaning as appearing underneath unless denoted otherwise:

The department... Any ministry of government department or authority or official public institution

The Authority... The Higher Authority for Purchases which, has been set up under the provisions of this statute.

The chairman: The authority's chairman.

**Article 3:** The provisions of this statute are to be applied by departments concerning the purchases made at the local, external and international markets.

The purchases in question include transferrable assets, services, goods, commodities, materials, tasks, tools, devices, instruments and machinery including their respective maintenance and insurance on them as well as their spare parts and all other items subject to the definition of supplies as provided for under existing legislations.

**Article 4:** Higher Authority for Purchases is to be set up with a chairman at its head assisted by a council and an executive body.

**Article 5:** The Higher Authority for Purchases has been set up to contribute the development of departments responsible for purchases and ensuring services and to boost their efficiency and stimulate their activities and control their performance and the conduct

of their staff and to ensure that they abide by the existing legislations and to determine their points of defects imbalances and shortcomings, and to work towards addressing these areas and avoiding failures.

It will also follow up on matters aimed at improving and simplifying procedures and at preventing any abuse of authority or negligence of duty or any fraudulent act or any action that could harm public interest.

**Article 6:**

A) The authority is to be chaired by a chairman who wields a minister's powers in the management of the authority's affairs.

B) Within the authority there will be an inner council headed by the chairman assisted by four of the authority's members.

C) The chairman and the authority members will be appointed by a royal decree, which will also determine their salaries and their financial rights. Their services will be terminated also by a royal decree upon recommendation from the prime minister.

D) The authority members will elect among themselves a deputy chairman to carry out tasks entrusted to him by the chairman. He also acts for the chairman in the latter's absence or in the event his position falls vacant.

**Article 7:** The authority undertakes the following tasks:

A) Drawing up the authority's general policy.

B) The endorsement of plans and programmes for the attainment of the authority's objectives.

C) Laying down guidelines for the implementation of the authority's statute and regulations.

D) Preparing an annual draft budget for the authority to be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval.

E) Conducting any other tasks which the authority chairman sees fit to submit to the authority.

**Article 8:**

A) The authority convenes whenever the need arises upon the request of the chairman or his deputy in the chairman's absence. Any authority meeting is considered legal and official if it is attended by at least four

members including the chairman or his deputy in the chairman's absence and authority's decisions are passed unanimously or with a majority vote of those present at the meeting. Should there be equal votes forming a tie the chairman's vote will tip the balance.

B) The authority chairman will appoint a secretary to have full time work for the council. The secretary, to be chosen from the authority's workers, will arrange for meetings, take down minutes of its deliberations and file them and organise office work pertaining to the authority and will also carry out any other duties or transactions entrusted to him by the chairman.

**Article 9:** The chairman or any other authority member authorised in writing by the chairman, can discharge the following powers:

A) Request examination of official and unofficial documents necessary for the authority's operations.

B) Inspect applications for purchases and contract files as well as tenders and contracts for direct purchases awarding of tenders and also follow up procedures related to them including delivery procedures.

C) Request that errors and violations be avoided or can request legal procedures to be undertaken concerning these errors and violations.

D) Request halting any procedure should it prove that it is being committed in violation of legislation in force or if that procedure is regarded as violating public order or if any other reason exists that justifies this action.

E) Investigate any case in response to a written request by the prime minister and can set up temporary committees to study and scrutinise that case having been invested with certain limited powers.

F) Enlist the assistance of experts and consultants and specialists in cases that require that procedure expertise is required.

**Article 10:** The authority chairman is to be sworn in before His Majesty the King upon his appointment and before commencing his duties. The oath:

"I swear Almighty God to be loyal to the King and the Homeland and to uphold the Constitution and respect laws and regulations in force and carry out duties with honour honesty and loyalty."

**Article 11:** Regardless of provisions in any other legislation, all contracts pertaining to supplies and procurement to supplies as decided on by the Council of Ministers and pertaining to the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Security Services and Royal Jordanian should be carried out directly with the manufacturers or producers or suppliers without any mediation from agents and commercial intermediaries or consultants. The Council of Ministers has the right to include any department under these provisions of this article.

**Article 12:**

A) Any party to any commercial deal pertaining to purchases will not be allowed to seek to present or offer or grant any gains to any official for his own benefit or according to his desires directly or indirectly in return for taking certain action or refraining from it.

B) All parties in any commercial dealing related to purchases should take appropriate measures aimed at preventing any illegal gains of any kind or value from reaching any person or employee in person or through a third party or to any of his relatives or partners.

C) All parties to a commercial transaction pertaining to purchases will not use sub-contracts or purchase orders as a means to transfer any funds or gains whatever their kind to any person or employee that wields any authority or have influence on decision-making or to any of his relatives or partners.

D) Parties to a commercial transaction are: governments, departments, institutions, public establishments, national and regional or international agencies which deal in financing and lending credit and donations as well as manufacturers, producers and suppliers, agents commercial intermediaries and consultants and others providing services or funds for commercial transactions.

**Article 13:**

A) Commission or bonus to be paid to any agent or consultant or commercial intermediary should not exceed a reasonable limit paid for a legal service. These agents are not allowed to give any part of their commissions or bonus to others for the sake of seeking illegal measure or for the sake of making an illegal gain or advantage or to win or ensure the perpetuation of any illegal matter.

B) All agents and commercial intermediaries and consultants should submit to the concerned department, lists of names of manufacturers producers and suppliers and the persons who represent them or deal with them and should submit a statement of the amount of commissions and bonuses that they receive from them for legitimate services carried out directly or through a third party.

C) Agents, consultants and commercial intermediaries or suppliers will keep a modern accounting system and should record any transaction in the books and special registers to be ready for government examination at any moment.

**Article 14:** The authority discharges duties and powers invested in it in a manner compatible with the provisions of this statute and regulations emanating from it in cooperation and coordination with the other departments and in particular with the Audit Bureau, and the administrative inspection and control bureau as well as internal control units in accordance with a working plan to be put into force in line with specific instructions that will be issued in this regard.

**Article 15:** The authority chairman can, upon the recommendation of the authority members, issue instructions for the implementation of the statute's regulations, including matters related to administrative and financial affairs, the executive functions, consultants, experts and specialists and their authorities and their financial rights and bonuses.

**Article 16:** Any other text in any other legislation that runs contrary to the provisions of this statute will be considered cancelled.

## Ross reports seriousness

(Continued from page 1)

arrangements."

Meanwhile the government: daily Tishrin on Tuesday boasted of strong Arab support for Syria's demands for a "fair and honourable" peace settlement with Israel.

Damascus was not "isolated" as some countries said

and official support," the paper said, citing the Arab League's decision last week to maintain its boycott on Israel.

Mr. Ross will also hold talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza City on Wednesday, a Palestinian spokesman said.

Syria and Lebanon Tuesday renewed their pledge to



## Azerbaijan, Western firms sign \$7b oil deal

[illegible]



## Financial Markets

**Jordan Times**  
in co-operation with  
**Cairo Amman Bank**  
U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 19/9/94	Tokyo Close 20/9/94
Sterling Pound	1.5710	1.5660
Deutsche Mark	1.5485	1.5567
Swiss Franc	1.2845	1.2895
French Franc	5.2875	5.3172**
Japanese Yen	98.45	98.50
European Currency Unit	1.2315	1.2266**

**Forward Interest Rates** Date: 20/9/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.62	4.37	5.25	5.75
Sterling Pound	5.18	5.68	6.25	7.25
Deutsche Mark	4.81	4.57	5.00	5.37
Swiss Franc	3.68	3.87	4.12	4.43
French Franc	3.31	3.50	3.81	4.31
Japanese Yen	2.25	2.18	2.25	2.50
European Currency Unit	5.62	5.64	6.21	6.86

**Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin** Date: 20/9/1994

Currency	Buy	Sell
U.S. Dollar	0.6970	0.6990
Sterling Pound	1.0904	1.0959
Deutsche Mark	0.4476	0.4494
Swiss Franc	0.5397	0.5424
French Franc	0.3309	0.3316
Japanese Yen	0.7087	0.7102
Dutch Guilder	0.3999	0.4010
Swedish Krona	0.0444	0.0446
Italian Lira	0.0444	0.0446
Belgian Franc	0.0444	0.0446

**Other Currencies** Date: 20/9/1994

Currency	Buy	Sell
Bahraini Dinar	1.5290	1.6500
Lebanese Lira	0.0410	0.0421
Saudi Riyal	0.1854	0.1876
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.5100	2.5410
Omani Riyal	0.1901	0.1921
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7890	1.8200
UAE Dirham	0.1888	0.1905
Greek Drachma	0.2735	0.3145
Cypriot Pound	1.3640	1.4985

## Coffee prices flare again on grounds of drought in Brazil

LONDON (Agencies) — Coffee prices have flared again to reach their highest level in nearly nine years, on news that drought has hit Brazil, the world's largest producer.

"Nobody knows up to what level the market can go. There is no limit unless people stop buying and drinking coffee," said Carolyn Reilly, an analyst for the London Rudolf Wolff trading company.

Prices have more than tripled since the beginning of the year on the London futures market. On Tuesday, prices reached their highest level since January 1986 at \$4.100 a tonne.

Coffee roasters Nestle and Maxwell, which raised their prices in July after crops in Brazil were hit by a cold spell, could increase them again in the next few weeks because of the current drought, which has affected the flowering season, analysts said here.

Operators fear that the May 95 to April 96 harvest will be lower than expected, after already suffering a 40 per cent shortfall because of two cold spells in June and July.

With no rain expected over the next few days, the market remained nervous here as analysts pointed out this could affect the flowering season and production of the coffee beans.

The coffee shortfall comes after many producers in South America and Africa switched to other crops because of lower prices over the past few years.

Exporting countries had decided in October 1993 to temporarily withhold part of their production in a bid to raise prices.

Exports from Colombia, the world's second largest producer, dropped by almost 18 per cent over the 12 months ending in July.

And Indonesia and Ivory Coast — the two main producers of robusta coffee — have seen exports drop by 25 and 40 per cent respectively over the same period.

Stocks held by roasters are now low and the companies are being forced to pay top prices for their supplies.

And prices could rise further if Brazil goes ahead, as it said it would on Sept. 6, with a plan to limit exports to ensure a plentiful supply for the domestic market and limit inflation at home.

Meanwhile, Uganda's coffee exports fell 41 per cent in the trading week to Monday as stocks were held back waiting for prices to rise, the state-run Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) said Tuesday.

It said in a report that exports fell to 25,111 kilogramme bags from 60,883 bags in the previous week.

"Export activity was relatively low mainly because world coffee prices are expected to rise soon," an official from UCDA, the industry's top policy body, told Reuters.

UCDA said Uganda was expected to export 2.3 million 60 kilogramme bags this crop year, which ends on Sept. 30, up from 2.09 million bags last year.

## Lebanon first Eurobond said 'progressing nicely'

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's first Eurobond issue is "progressing nicely" with indications of interest from offshore clients topping two-thirds of its minimum set \$150 million amount, a financial source said.

"I understand the issue is progressing nicely. At this point it is going along good as expected," the source told Reuters.

"There is quite an interest in it and the rates are very attractive," he added. "I expect it to be fully subscribed."

It is Lebanon's first attempt to tap the international debt market. Authorities in June opened a secondary market, trading now only in shares of the Soldiere company to rebuild Beirut centre, and say the default stock exchange will open soon.

The source did not specify when the issue will come out but said that indications of interest will continue to be taken in until the end of the month. Lead manager Merrill Lynch International began receiving them on Sept. 14.

Asked about a newspaper report that Merrill Lynch has so far secured at least \$100 million of the Eurobond's amount in indications of interest, the source said: "Yes, this is accurate. Probably more money has been secured so far."

Last week a financial source said the size and terms of the issue will be fixed after a "road show" by Merrill Lynch in Gulf states and European capitals between Sept. 17 to 27. He said then that the issue will be on fixed price reoffer basis.

A preliminary offering circular by Merrill Lynch said the coupon has not been set yet but the source said it would be probably around 10 per cent. This is 300 to 350 basis points over U.S. three-year treasury notes which stand at 6.67 per cent.

"It looks it is going to be a generous coupon," he said.

The source said Lebanon, which has no rating yet because of its 1975-90 civil war and the fact that it has not borrowed before on international markets, has to offer high rates to attract foreign capital but could lower them on future issues.

Indications of interest were coming from private clients and institutions, including expatriate Lebanese, he said.

The circular said the issue would be of a minimum \$150 million in notes due 1997, in denominations of \$1,000, \$10,000 and \$100,000 each with coupons for payment of interest.

The manager and the issuer reserve the right to increase the principal amount of the bond, it added.

Parliament has authorised the government to float a Eurobond issue of up to \$300 million to build a ring road around Beirut and carry out infrastructure work, including an electricity generation plant, in impoverished Muslim suburbs of Beirut.

It would also finance construction of roads and highways in South Lebanon, north Lebanon and the eastern Bekaa Valley.

Application has been made to list the bond on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, said the circular. The notes are governed by and will be construed in accordance with English law, it added.

## Saudi power firm reports \$247m loss

MANAMA (R) — The Saudi Consolidated Electric Company-West has reported a \$25.9 million Saudi riyal (\$246.9 million) net operating loss in a year, a company official said Tuesday.

The company's loss was 16 per cent up on the previous year's net operating loss of 797.0 million riyals (\$212.5 million), despite an increase in its electricity sales in the kingdom.

It was the third major Saudi Arabian power firm, mainly owned by the Saudi government, to report a huge loss so far this year.

The company official said total income rose to 1.71 billion riyals (\$453.3 million) in the year ending last June from 1.50 billion (\$400.0 million) a year earlier.

Figures released by the firm Tuesday showed shareholders' funds dropped to 6.49 billion riyals (\$1.73 billion) from 7.47 billion (\$1.99 billion). Assets rose to 28.58 billion riyals (\$7.81 billion) from 27.61 billion (\$7.36 billion).

Last month, the Saudi Consolidated Electric Company-South said it had lost 725.5 million riyals (\$193.5 million) in the year ending in June 1994, up 3.3 per cent on a 702.2 million (\$187.3 million) loss a year earlier.

The Saudi Consolidated Electric Company-East has also reported a \$10 million riyal (\$136.0 million) loss during the same period.

Industry sources said the Saudi government spends around \$1 billion to cover the electricity firms' losses and for paying Saudi shareholders a seven per cent annual income on their holdings in the firms.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

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	1.5551/61	Deutschemarks
	1.7438/48	Dutch guilders
	1.2880/90	Swiss francs
	32.00/04	Belgian francs
	5.3155/05	French francs
	1569.3/0.8	Italian lire
	98.29/39	Japanese yen
	7.5018/18	Swedish crowns
	6.8115/65	Norwegian crowns
	6.1130/80	Danish crowns
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## Dubai gold imports rise

DUBAI (R) — Gold imports into Dubai, a world trading centre for the metal, rose slightly in the second quarter of 1994 after a decline in the previous three months, the World Gold Council (WGC) said.

"Total gold imports in the first seven months of 1994 were 146.8 tonnes as compared to 141.65 tonnes in the corresponding period last year," a WGC statement sent to Reuters said.

"This is particularly significant since, in the first quarter (of 1994), gold imports had declined by 24 per cent over the previous year," it added.

A rise in world oil prices during June and July had contributed to a general optimism in the market, the WGC said.

The start in April of the marriage season in India — the main market for gold reexported from Dubai — and a good monsoon there had led to strong gold demand in the second quarter, the statement said.

"It is anticipated that this positive trend in gold offtake will continue for the rest of the year and consequently it is estimated that the drop in 1994 over 1993 will be contained to a nominal level of five to seven per cent," added.

Gold imports into Dubai fell sharply in 1993 from unusually high levels in 1992, which were prompted by India's loosening of its gold import rules.

The WGC statement contrasts with a less bullish view offered in June by Pedro Bertran, the Dubai-based head of the WGC in the Middle East and subcontinent, who predicted that 1994 was likely to see total imports of 170-180 tonnes, around pre-1992 levels.

The WGC said 11.4 tonnes of gold was consumed in Dubai in the second quarter of 1994, compared to 10 tonnes in the same period last year.



## FIFA may reconsider doping test

By Paul Radford  
Reuters

PARIS — A leading FIFA official called on Tuesday for the sport's world governing body to take a new look at anti-doping measures after it was revealed that a French first division player had tested positive.

FIFA General Secretary Sepp Blatter said soccer's third positive test in recent months was a blow to the sport and that FIFA's executive meeting in New York next month would almost certainly examine the problem again.

His comments came after it emerged on Tuesday that an unnamed French player had been secretly punished by the French federation last season for failing a test.

Soccer, based more on

individual skill than on strength or endurance, has long prided itself on not having the chronic doping problems associated with sports such as athletics, cycling or weightlifting.

But the notorious Diego Maradona ephedrine case at the World Cup finals in June and the one-year ban imposed earlier this month on Dynamo Minsk midfielder Valentin Belkevich for using anabolic steroids after a UEFA Cup drugs test this season have brought soccer firmly into the doping spotlight.

The French sports daily L'Equipe revealed on Tuesday that a first division player had been secretly suspended last season for doping.

French federation Presi-

dent Claude Simonet confirmed the case in response to Reuter questions but declined to name the player or the substance he had taken.

"It was a minor case," he said. "The player was given a one-month suspended ban. It was just a warning."

But Mr. Simonet did categorically deny L'Equipe speculation that the player was from the Monaco club, European Cup semifinalist last season.

Mr. Blatter said he had just learned of the French case and could not comment on it.

Asked for a reaction, he said he was disappointed. "We and other sporting bodies are fighting against doping in sport."

"In football we have al-

ways had negative tests in the past. Now we have had three positives. This will give us food for thought. I think we will probably have to look at this problem again at our executive meeting in New York."

Mr. Blatter said it was important that soccer kept conducting dope tests and that it punished offenders harshly.

Ironically, soccer is the only Olympic sport which has chosen not to follow an International Olympic Committee (IOC) campaign to stamp out doping, refusing to sign an IOC accord because FIFA opposes out-of-competition testing.

Mr. Blatter was clearly embarrassed by the French

federation's failure to inform FIFA of the positive test.

He said there were no standard rules on publicising doping cases but that national federations were obliged to inform FIFA when they took sanctions against a player.

However, the French federation's secrecy went in the face of FIFA policy on the deterrent effect of publicising offenders and inevitably fuelled speculation that there could be further hidden cases.

L'equipe, quoting unnamed sources, said that five first division players in France had shown positive on first or a test samples last season. Four were cleared later on medical grounds.

## No one likely to repeat Laver's grand slam win soon

NEWPORT, R.I. (AP) — It was 25 years ago that Rod Laver won the tennis grand slam. No man has done it since, and the way Laver sees it, it's unlikely it will happen again soon.

"I think Pete Sampras is certainly the odds-on choice. He's the one you point to who could do it," Laver said. "It's not to say some other players couldn't hit a bright patch in their careers, but I don't foresee it."

"It's harder to do now. I don't think players put emphasis in their lives on being disappointed if they don't win a grand slam. A lot of people are just happy to win a grand slam tournament."

Laver, 56, won Wimbledon and the Australian, French and U.S. Opens as an amateur in 1962, then as a professional in 1969, the first full year of tennis' open era. In Newport last weekend to play in the legends of time exhibition, he and several other players from his era reflected on the silver anniversary of Laver's last grand slam.

Laver says his toughest test in 1969 came during the Australian Open, when he went five sets with Tony Roche, winning 6-3 in the fifth.

"This was before tiebreakers, and one set was 22-20, another was 11-9 and another was 8-6," he recalls. "It was in the tropical climate and humidity, and on the grass it was even worse."

"Laver breezed through the French Open, winning the final in straight sets over Ken Rosewall — 'probably the

best match I played on clay" — and added the third leg of the grand slam by winning Wimbledon in four sets over John Newcombe.

He finished off his second grand slam by winning the U.S. Open, with Roche again giving Laver a toughest test, this time in the final.

The final was pushed back a day by rain, and when Laver and Roche took the court at Forest Hills, the grass was still damp. Laver lost the first set, then changed into a pair of blunt tennis spikes in search of more traction.

"I was still slipping in the spikes," Laver remembers, but he overwhelmed Roche to win the match in four sets. Australian Fred Stolle, who won the U.S. Open in 1966 and toured professionally for three years with Laver, says the man he calls "rock-et" was tough mentally.

"Whenever you broke serve and you went up there to try and consolidate that break, he was the best at breaking back right away. I think that was one of his major strengths," Stolle says. "He was an aggressive player, the first guy that really ripped topspin backhands. There weren't a lot of topspin lobs around, and Rod had that."

Both men agree the grand slam has become considerably harder to win.

Stolle and Laver point to the fact that the tournaments are now played on four different surfaces — clay, grass, hardcourt and rubberised — instead of just grass and clay.

as in Laver's day. And both say the depth of competition in today's game is greater than anything they faced.

"The composite, wide-body rackets have allowed a lot of players to compete and play very good tennis at a very young age," Laver said. "It's possible to become a very good player at a very young age."

"(There's also) a great deal of pressure on the players to win the matches. It's tougher all the way through the draw."

## Nigerian goalkeeper dies of injuries

ALGIERS (AFP) — Marc Ikeji, goalkeeper for top Nigerian club Iwuanyanwu Natioale, has died from injuries sustained in last Sunday's plane crash which also cost the life of another player and three crew.

Ikeji, whose chest was crushed in the crash, died Tuesday, hospital authorities in Tamanrasset said. Onalieu Aimanwansa was killed when the plane returning from an African Champions' Cup tie in Tunisia crashed in southern Algeria. The two pilots and an attendant also died. The BAC 111 aircraft was carrying 32 members of the club and a crew of seven.

Four of the other 23 injured passengers were still being detained in hospital but their condition was not serious, the hospital spokesman added.

## Norwich wins at Ipswich

IPSWICH, England (AP) — Carl Bradshaw put in the rebound off his own blocked penalty kick Monday to give Norwich a 2-1 victory over Ipswich in a battle between neighbourhood rivals in the English premier league.

Bradshaw, a £450,000 (\$675,000) summer signing from Sheffield United, steered home the ball after goalkeeper Craig Forrest acrobatically saved the spot kick in the 52nd minute.

The penalty itself was a disputed one. Angry Ipswich players surrounded referee Roger Dikkes to protest after Simon Milton was penalised for pushing Ian Crook at the edge of the area.

The victory was the first for Norwich over its East Anglia rivals at Portman Road since 1982, and improved the Canaries to 10th in the 22-team league with nine points in six games. Ipswich, losing

for the fourth time this season, is 20th with four points.

Before 17,447 fans in driving rain, Rob Newman put Norwich ahead in the 11th minute and John Wark equalised with a penalty in the final minute before halftime.

After scoring only once in its first five games, Norwich manager John Deehan shook up his lineup with newcomers Mike Milligan and Mike Sberon, and Newman was pushed up front to fill the void left by departed £5 million (\$7.5 million) striker Chris Sutton.

Newman broke the scoring drought when he darted forward to toe-poke The ball past Forrest after Jon Newsome headed down a Neil Adams free kick.

Newsome was later whistled for the foul that allowed 37-year-old Wark to convert his spot kick just before the interval.

## Tokyo snubs Beijing over Taiwan visit

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan rejected Tuesday a demand by Beijing to disallow Taiwanese officials from visiting the Asian Games, a move in contrast with its past policy of avoiding argument with its huge neighbour over Taiwan.

During a meeting with Chinese Ambassador Xu Dunxin in Tokyo, Foreign Minister Yohei Kono said Japan would stick to its decision to allow Vice Premier Hsu Li-Teh and two other Taiwanese officials to attend the Hiroshima games which start October 2.

Kono told Xu: "We admitted (the Taiwanese officials) visit after carefully considering the case. We would like you to understand it."

But the Chinese ambassador refused to back down and warned that Japan should re-

consider the decision which, he said, "will affect China-Japan relations."

Xu said: "Part of the current China-Japan relations are experiencing a very difficult problem. I came here to ask Japan to make a political decision."

He added that the Taiwanese officials "plan to attend the games for a political purpose."

But Kono, quoted by Jiji Press, ended the 15 minutes of talks with no solution, reiterating his call for China's understanding in the matter.

Japan switched recognition to communist China in 1972, cutting diplomatic relations with Taiwan. Since then, Tokyo has acceded to Beijing's insistence that all countries with whom it has diplomatic relations recognise it as the sole, legitimate government of all of China.

Tokyo previously has not accepted any official visit from Taiwan, which China considers a breakaway province that it will eventually recover.

However, the government has taken what observers here say is an unusual step in Japan's capacity as this year's host of the most important sporting event in the region.

Tokyo has defended its position, saying that the Taiwanese officials' visit is merely connected to Taipei's bid to stage the Asian Games in 2002.



A file picture dated July 1984 shows U.S. tennis player Vitas Gerulaitis. The body of 40-year-old Gerulaitis, winner of the Australian Open in 1977 and number four in the

world rankings in 1984, was discovered in an apartment of a friend in Southampton, New York on Sunday (AFP photo)

## Police: Gerulaitis died of carbon monoxide poisoning

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP) — Former tennis star Vitas Gerulaitis apparently died of accidental carbon monoxide poisoning, police said Monday night.

Gerulaitis, 40, appeared to have been overcome by the fumes from a "faulty propane heater installation" that speeded into the heating and air conditioning system of a friend's home, Southampton village police said.

Police said they did not know whether Gerulaitis was asleep at the time of the accident. He was the only person in the guest cottage of the oceanfront estate in this affluent Long Island town.

Investigators found "lethal levels" of carbon monoxide inside the entire residence where Gerulaitis' body was found shortly after 3 p.m. (1900 GMT) Sunday. Police said there was no history of carbon monoxide trouble at the residence.

Gerulaitis' body was found on the bed, fully clothed. Police said there were no signs of drugs or crime.

The Suffolk county medical examiner's office conducted an autopsy Monday. The examiner said further toxicological tests were being done.

Nancy Chaffee Whitaker, a former tennis star married to ABC sportscaster Jack Whitaker, saw Gerulaitis the day before his body was found. He'd flown in from the west coast late Friday night and arrived at the Raguey club of East Hampton early the next morning for a charity tennis clinic.

Despite a sore back, a long

trip and little sleep, Gerulaitis was in good spirits, she said. "He looked good. He didn't look like he wasn't feeling well or that something was wrong."

When the clinic ended, she said, "he gave me a hug and said, 'I'll see you at 7,' when a dinner at the club was scheduled."

But Gerulaitis did not show up at the dinner, and the following afternoon a servant who went to the guest cottage to make the bed found his body.

Gerulaitis' host was developer Martin Raynes, a friend since both men were fixtures on the Manhattan party circuit in the '70s. Gerulaitis was a frequent guest at the single-and-stone cottage, police said.

Gerulaitis played his last match Wednesday night in Seattle on the champions tour, a circuit for men 35 and over. He withdrew from the event the next day because of a bad back.

He injured it at the beginning of a doubles match: Gerulaitis and Jimmy Connors vs. Bjorn Borg and John Lloyd.

Gerulaitis and Connors lost in straight sets, but had some fun. When the chair umpire ordered the usual "new balls" during a chancerover, Gerulaitis said, "new balls. Old players."

Gerulaitis acknowledged using cocaine during the late 1970s and 80s, and said that drugs and late nights undercut a career that was based on quickness and endurance. He was treated for substance abuse and was implicated,

though never charged, in a cocaine-dealings conspiracy in 1983.

Fred Stolle, Gerulaitis' former coach, said Gerulaitis had admitted using drugs, but that he'd been off them "at least the last couple of years."

Comedian Alan King, a fixture at the U.S. Open, had known Gerulaitis for more than two decades. He recalled the tennis star's generosity and humor.

After Borg had beaten Gerulaitis 16 consecutive times, an unbowed Gerulaitis proclaimed: "Nobody beats Gerulaitis 17 times in a row" King remembered.

"Although he was a high liver — he went all the way — every year he used to give away hundreds and hundreds of rackets.... There wasn't a charity event he didn't show up for," King said.

John McEnroe Sr. said his son, John, was "terribly distraught by the news" of Gerulaitis' death. McEnroe Sr. recalled that Gerulaitis was an inspiration to his son when the two were playing tennis as youngsters in the New York area.

"John and Vitas were at the Port Washington Tennis Academy together at the LNE time. John... was five years younger than Vitas. So Vitas' success was quite pronounced in the junior and then John was following, in effect, in his footsteps," he said.

Gerulaitis is survived by a sister, Ruta, and his mother, Alodoma. A funeral is scheduled for Thursday, but details were not settled.

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## Olympic bidders stir winning brew

PARIS (AFP) — Cities bidding for the 2002 Winter Olympics are this week when the International Olympic Committee's assessors begin their task of selecting four finalists. But just how do candidates convince the 100 members who sit on the IOC that they are the right choice?

"If you could put it into a bottle we would sell it," Richard Pound, one of the most influential men on the IOC, told AFP.

"But we'd start selling after June 95," added the Canadian lawyer who sits on the Quebec City bidding committee.

June 16 is when the IOC session in Budapest decides on the hosts for the 19th Winter Games.

Pound, who chairs the IOC

financial commission, said the most important step was to win the confidence of IOC members.

"IOC members have to be confident the city is ready to do it, is capable of doing it and that a lot is already in place," he said.

"They have to be confident we are genuinely eager to welcome the world of sport," he added.

The genie in the bottle for Lillehammer was Norway's forceful and widely-respected Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland.

"I'd tell bidding cities to get someone like her," said the 1994 Winter Games press chief Tor Aune.

John Coates, the Australian National Olympic committee president recognised as having masterminded Syd-

ney's successful bid for the 2000 Summer Games, says trust is essential.

"A good technical bid is essential but perhaps the most important thing is the IOC has to be satisfied you will do it properly," he said.

"But it's very hard for first-timers," he added. "Sydney's bid was built on attempts by Brisbane and Melbourne to win the games."

Thomas Bach, who won a gold medal in Germany's 1976 Olympic fencing team in Montreal, leads a Evaluation Commission which visits Salt Lake City and Quebec City this week.

"There are two qualifying rounds," said Tom Welch, president of the Salt Lake City bid committee which lost out to Nagoya in Japan for the 1998 games after four

rounds of voting in 1991.

"First we have to demonstrate to the evaluation commission we are technically competent, that we do have the necessary infrastructure, transport, telecommunications, management skills."

"Then we have to catch the collective mood of the IOC. There are many reasons a city is chosen to host the Olympics — rotation, language, excellence. But basically we have to convince them our team can put on the games in the way they would want."

The 13-member commission visits Jaca, Spain; Ostersund, Sweden; and Sion, Switzerland from Oct. 10-18.

Tarvisio, Italy; Graz, Austria; Poprad-Tatry, Slovakia; and Sochi, Russia are scheduled for Oct. 30. to

Nov. 11.

Anton Geesink, Holland's giant judo champion in Tokyo in 1964, and Japan's Chiharu Igaya, slalom silver medalist at Cortina in 1956 are other medal winners on the commission which could lean heavily on the advice of Puerto Rican banker Richard Carriuan and IOC sports director Gilbert Felli.

The commission reports back on Dec. 2-3 to an electoral college headed by South Korea's IOC Vice-President Kim Un Young.

The four short-listed candidates chosen by Kim's electoral board on Jan. 24 will make their final bid at the IOC session in Budapest in June.

By then most, if not all, the IOC members will have vi-

sited the four remaining candidates and it is the personal friendships built up beforehand that may swing the vote.

"It's a question of trust," said Bob Brennan, press chief for the 1996 Atlanta Summer games. "We found there had to be confidence not only that we could do it but we would do it the way we had promised."

"And that often comes down to the friendships you have established. The South is known for its hospitality and I think the IOC members saw us as genuinely likeable people."

He discounts speculation of votes being bought.

"What's the use of paying when you can never be sure they'd vote for you," he said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Popescu gets Spurs go-ahead

LONDON (AFP) — Romanian World Cup defender Gheorghe Popescu received international clearance and a work permit from the British government to begin his career with English club, Tottenham Hotspur, on Tuesday.

The 26-year-old star had to make a hectic dash back to Holland to obtain a new visa for his passport, before his 2.9-million-pound move from PSV Eindhoven could be finalised. Popescu is likely to make his Spurs debut in Wednesday's second round, first leg league cup match, away to first division Watford.

### Liverpool star cleared of 'elbowing'

LONDON (AFP) — Liverpool defender Neil Ruddock has been spared disciplinary action by the English Football Association over an alleged elbowing incident, involving Manchester United star Eric Cantona. United players were furious when Ruddock escaped a booking after the clash in the Premiership match at Old Trafford on Saturday, which the champions won 2-0. TV evidence appeared to support United's case but an FA spokesman said on Tuesday: "We have received no complaints whatsoever from any source. No action is being taken." Cantona, the French international captain, was hooked minutes later for a scything tackle on Ruddock from behind.

### Date beats Japanese compatriot

TOKYO (AP) — Second-seeded Kimiko Date, overcoming a sore shoulder, trounced Japanese qualifier Ayako Hirose 6-4, 6-0 Tuesday in the first round of the Nichirei international ladies tennis championships. It was Date's first match since she lost to Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain 6-3, 6-0 in the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open earlier in September. U.S. Open champion Sanchez Vicario, the top-seeded player in the Nichirei tournament, plays her first match on Wednesday. "I've been suffering from a sore shoulder for a long time. I need rest but I must play even though I felt pain in my shoulder," said Date, ranked seventh in the world. Hirose moved ahead 2-0 with a service break in the second game, but Date fought back to 4-4. Date then broke again, served out the set and cruised through the second set, closing out the match in 65 minutes on the hard court of Ariake colosseum. "It took time to adjust to my first game in Japan since the U.S. Open," Date said.

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## Jansher wants to reach No. 10

PARIS (AP) — Six down and four to go. Jansher Khan is making no secret of his ambition to win 10 World Open titles before he hangs up his squash racket, having established himself as the most successful player the sport has ever known.

And yet, the more he strives to reach such an improbable objective, the harder it will be for the hugely talented Pakistani to achieve it.

Physically, and mentally, Jansher will find that the challenges are going to increase rather than diminish.

The 25-year-old from Peshawar captured his sixth world title in Barcelona last Sunday equalling the tournament record set by his more illustrious namesake, Jahangir Khan, and setting his personal agenda until the end of the decade.

"If I don't get injured over the next four or five years, I am fully confident that I can win 10 World Opens," he says, and on last week's evidence there appears no-one currently to touch him.

"Tactically, the best player on the circuit by far," "the number one in the world" and "brilliant" — these tributes were paid last week to Jansher not by his adoring fans, but by the people he ground effortlessly into submission.

However, he is unlikely to find future successes quite so

straightforward.

As Jansher readily admits, he needs to remain injury-free to stay at the top — a feat which is becoming increasingly difficult as the pace and power of squash has increased in recent years.

He blamed a nagging ankle injury for his 3-0 defeat to England's Peter Marshall in Paris two weeks ago, and claimed it nearly stopped him from competing in Barcelona. Hopefully, it will prove to be a temporary inconvenience, rather than the start of a long-running affliction.

Yet it's highly unlikely that the physical wear and tear of such a gruelling sport will not make its presence felt before the end of the decade, as it has done for Jansher's rivals.

Jansher's own reign has been made easier by the injuries which, to varying degrees, have cut short the playing of his most dangerous opponents — Jahangir Khan and Australians Chris Dittmar and Chris Robertson.

A hip injury, coupled with personal problems, has also meant a year of defeat and disappointment for Rodney Martin, the 1991 world champion.

The other challenge facing Jansher is a mental one — coping with the burden of people's expectations back in Pakistan.

Like supporters of European football champions AC Milan, Jansher's followers

have become so used to success that only continued invincibility will do.

"When you're world number one, there's always pressure," he said.

"Sometimes you lose in a tournament. And when I do my family understands me, that I'm playing a lot of tournaments and that it doesn't matter if Jansher loses one. They know he's not a machine. But the country always wants you to win."

Indeed, it was the fear of defeat in the World Open — rather than the fear of exacerbating his injury during the tournament — which drove him to the brink of withdrawal, two hours before his flight to Barcelona.

"I thought, it's the World Open and my country always wants me to win the tournament. And I don't want to go there and lose because I'm not fit. If I go there I must win."

In the end, he went. And he won.

But in the final, the loss of the opening game — his first of the tournament — was put down as much to the overwhelming pressure as Marshall's glorious attacking game, and the fear of his injury returning also haunted him during the 90-minute encounter.

"I thought if I lost, what would happen? Even when I was leading 2-1 I was thinking 'I must win, I must win.'"

## Baseball gone, but life goes on

NEW YORK (AFP) — Actor Albert Brooks summed up the frustrations of U.S. baseball fans, no longer able to enjoy their favourite sport as a means from escaping life-or-death issues such as the U.S. occupation of Haiti.

"If Jimmy Carter could go and get that Haiti thing solved, you would think somebody could solve a baseball strike," said Brooks, who plays the title role in a new baseball movie called "The Scout."

Carter's last-minute negotiations prevented a U.S. military invasion of Haiti on Sunday, producing a settlement to end the military dictatorship there and restore democracy.

Baseball had no such saviour as owners voted last Wednesday to cancel the remainder of the season and

playoffs because of a players strike. The owners' demands for a salary cap prompted the walkout and led to the first cancellation of a World Series in 90 years.

"It's terrible," Brooks said. "A lot of people are acting like babies. They ought to sit down. The World Series is like Christmas. It's just supposed to be there. It's part of our lives."

But those lives have already started to go on without baseball.

"Go watch football or basketball, or go to the movies," advised Pittsburgh pitcher Andy Van Slyke. "The world doesn't end because there is no baseball."

Teams have already started reducing their off-season expenses. Kansas City fired manager Hal McRae, who guided the Royals into playoff contention when the

strike came. San Diego fired half of their 50-person administrative staff. The Oakland A's plan to lay off 17 front-office workers.

Players union head Don Fehr begins a series of regional meetings with the membership Tuesday in Atlanta to appraise people what happens now. Fehr's tour continues Wednesday in Tampa, here on Friday and next week in Chicago, Dallas, Phoenix and Los Angeles.

The Colorado Rockies announced plans to raise ticket prices next year. They will move to a smaller stadium, one built only for baseball. Fewer seats will mean higher prices in order to stay competitive, the team said.

Some players wonder if fans will buy tickets again at any price.

## Becker opens 2nd shop

BONN (AFP) — Tennis champion Boris Becker is opening his second Mercedes car dealership in eastern Germany Friday, the German car manufacturer announced Tuesday.

Becker, one of the top-earning tennis players, has invested 25 million marks (\$16 million) in two garages, employing 86 people, which sell and do maintenance on Mercedes models.

The second dealership in the northern city of Stralsund will be operated by Karl-Heinz Becker, Boris' father.

Boris himself will not be attending the inauguration of the garage as he is due to be playing in a tournament in Kuala-Lumpur next week.

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## King meets Indonesian minister

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received Indonesian Minister of Youth and Sports Hayono Isman, who conveyed to the King the best wishes of Indonesian President Suharto.

The King and Mr. Isman reviewed bilateral relations and means of enhancing them.

The audience (see photo) was attended by Youth Minister Fawwaz Abu Al Ghanam and Indonesian ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Hassan Adami.

Also on Tuesday Mr. Isman met with AL al Bayt University President Adnan Bakhit, who briefed the visiting minister on the university's objectives and the various majors it will be offering to its students.



## Big powers in new Bosnia push

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — A big power contact group seeking peace in Bosnia began a new push on Tuesday to overcome Bosnian Serb rejection of their plan to divide the former Yugoslav republic between its warring communities.

U.N. spokesman Michael Williams said the group, meeting in Zagreb, were also likely to discuss the withdrawal of U.N. peacekeepers from Bosnia if the international arms embargo on the Muslim-led government is lifted.

Contact group officials — from the United States, Russia, Germany, France and Britain — were seeing U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman in Zagreb.

They were travelling to Belgrade for talks on Wednesday with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic who has backed the peace plan and imposed a military blockade against the Bosnian Serbs.

International peace efforts have run into the sand since the Bosnian Serbs spurned the contact group proposal to divide Bosnia almost equally

between them and a federation of Muslims and Croats.

The United States plans to ask the U.N. to lift the arms embargo against the Muslims if the Bosnian Serbs do not endorse the plan by Oct. 15.

Russia, France and Britain, who fear rearming the Muslims would rekindle the war, will withdraw their peacekeepers — the backbone of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) — if the embargo is eased.

Bosnian Serbs, encouraged by the disarray among the international negotiators, have demanded a revamping of the plan and say they will sit tight until the group make new proposals.

In the meantime, they have begun a power blockade of Sarajevo and its 380,000 mainly-Muslim inhabitants, cutting off their water, electricity and gas, and threatening to choke essential supplies to UNPROFOR.

General Sir Michael Rose, the peacekeeping commander and other UNPROFOR officials, were meeting Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Tuesday to ask

for the power to be turned back on.

The utilities situation in the Bosnian capital was to top the agenda at the meeting between Gen. Rose — accompanied by U.N. civil affairs coordinator Viktor Andreyev — and Mr. Karadzic in Pale, U.N. spokeswoman Claire Grimes said.

Sarajevo has been without water and electricity since last Wednesday, when storms downed major cables from the southwest and fighting damaged key pylons on the front line north of the capital, knocking out of action the city's main water pumping station at Bacevo.

U.N. negotiators have tried in vain to secure Serb clearance for U.N. teams to repair the cables and pylons.

A meeting on utilities Monday ended without progress and all sides were to meet again Wednesday, Mr. Grimes said.

Last Thursday the Serbs turned off gas supplies to Sarajevo, sparking a "gas war" between the Bosnian government and rebel Bosnian Serbs, an official close to the utilities negotiations told AFP.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the Bosnian government had cut supplies to Serb-held areas at Kladanj in a bid to pressurise the Serbs into reopening the gas taps at the Kasinodolska plant in the Serb-held part of Sarajevo.

U.N. officials said in private that local Serb civilian authorities were under pressure from the Serb military at Ilindza to keep Sarajevo cut off.

Red Cross spokeswoman Lisa Jones earlier revealed Bosnian Serb forces had detained some 140 men at the weekend as 2,500 Muslims were evicted from their homes in northeastern Bosnia in the biggest wave of "ethnic cleansing" since mid-July.

Ms. Jones said the Red Cross had been alerted to the case by a group of some 400 Muslims expelled across the front line into government-held areas late Sunday.

She added 140 men of conscription age were prevented from crossing the front line, even though they had paid 2,000 German marks each for the transfer.

## Embassies on alert against 'stolen or falsified' passports

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Diplomatic sources said Tuesday that some Western embassies in Amman had taken special measures to verify travel documents after confirming that some Iraqi nationals were using "stolen or falsified" passports to travel to the West.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that different kinds of stolen passports are being sold in Amman to Iraqi nationals for prices ranging between \$4,000 and \$7,000.

The sources also said that there have been some attempts to forge entry visas to some Western nations by some Iraqi nationals who want to immigrate to the West. They added that the Iraqis who tried to use such false visas had aimed at travelling to some Western countries with lenient asylum laws.

The sources said that among the stolen passports that Iraqis have been buying in Amman are Venezuelan passports, adding that it is almost certain that the majority of these passports were genuine documents stolen from their sources.

The sources added that photos of the Iraqi nationals who falsified these documents were attached to the stolen "new passports."

But the sources did not rule out possibilities that some of these passports were falsified after having been stolen from tourists or other Venezuelan nationals.

"My embassy detected attempts to get entry visas on fake travel documents," one Western diplomat told the Jordan Times.

Sources said that some travel agents tried to help a number of Iraqi nationals get visas through providing them with false travel tickets that specified the date of departure and return to Amman to meet a condition that some embassies require. They said these tickets were cancelled after the visa was granted with the travel agency pocketing a certain fee.

Diplomatic sources confirmed that diplomatic missions of European Union (EU) countries were bolder meetings to coordinate their efforts to counter attempts to get visas through false or stolen travel documents.

## Jordan-Israel talks to move to Hertzillia

By Khattab Salman  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The venue of the October round of Jordanian-Israeli peace talks will move for the first time to inland Israel, Foreign Ministry sources said on Tuesday.

The talks will take place on the central city of Hertzillia, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea on Oct. 10 and not as it was announced after the conclusion of the Tiberias round, the sources told the Jordan Times.

Hertzillia is 30 kilometres north of Tel Aviv. The sources added that maybe for the first time the Jordanian press delegation will be allowed to sleep in Israel.

The sources, who preferred not to be identified, noted that during all previous Jordanian-Israeli talks, Jordanian journalists had to come back to Jordanian territories and were not allowed

to stay in Israel for "security" reasons.

Both Jordanian and Israeli officials had said in a concluding press conference at Tiberias last month that a short round will be held at the Dead Sea Spa Hotel on the Jordanian side on Sept. 28-29 followed by a lengthy round in October.

Jordanian and Israeli negotiators met for 10 days at the Moriah Dead Sea Hotel in Israel and 10 more on the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea in August.

During the last round at the Dead Sea Spa Hotel in Jordan, Israeli-Jordanian security personnel and Foreign Ministry officials were allowed to sleep in Jordan while their Jordanian counterparts had to return to Jordan each day when the talks were held at the Israeli Moriah Plaza Hotel. Although arrangements for their accommodations were made by Israeli officials.

## Yemen's Islah pledges to respect democracy

SANAA (AFP) — The Muslim fundamentalist party Al Islah opened its first general congress here Tuesday with a call for democracy along Islamic lines and in alliance with President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Its leader and speaker of parliament, Sheikh Abdullah Al Ahmar, appealed for "national unity" after the May-July civil war in which northern troops defeated a southern rebellion.

But he urged vigilance against secessionists in the southern Yemen Socialist Party (YSP). "The forces which plotted against national unity have not lost hope and will try to sow sedition around the country," Sheikh Ahmar warned.

He told around 3,000 delegates and guests, including YSP leaders and officials of the General People's Congress (GPC) of Mr. Saleh, that Al Islah would respect the democratic process.

"Al Islah is committed to the path of democracy, based on the Shura," or Islamic consultation, the party's leader said.

Seeking to allay the fears of other parties, he vowed Al Islah would respect the multi-party system in force since the country was unified in May 1990 and "rejects violence, terrorism and recourse to violence in political action."

A senior GPC official, meanwhile, said his party and Al Islah were forming an

alliance to build a new ruling coalition.

The alliance would be based on "cooperation and complementarity, rather than confrontation," said Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, referring to the YSP, which Mr. Saleh has said would be dropped from the next government.

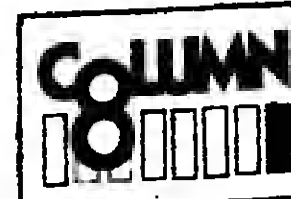
Most YSP leaders fled into exile upon the fall of their southern stronghold of Aden on July 7 and the party has elected a new leadership while refusing to evict the exiles.

The Al Islah congress has already been delayed twice, the first time in spring because of a political crisis between the YSP and GPC ahead of the war and again last week because of a key debate in parliament.

The debate, suspended on Monday until Saturday, focuses on an Al Islah proposal for Islamic law to become the sole legislative basis instead of a "main source" of Yemeni law.

The party also wants to replace the current five-member presidential council with a president elected by parliament, a proposal which would evict members from the country's highest political body.

Al Islah, strengthened by its alliance with the GPC, has emerged from the civil war aiming to increase its influence and capitalise on the defeat of the socialists, its arch-rivals.



## Hiroshima bomber exhibit under renewed attack

WASHINGTON (R) — A planned museum exhibit of the U.S. plane that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima came under renewed congressional criticism Monday as "unbalanced and offensive."

Senator Nancy Kassebaum, a Kansas Republican, introduced a Senate resolution calling on Washington's Smithsonian Institution to revise the exhibit, which has aroused the ire of veterans' groups and members of the House of Representatives.

"For example, there are still more than twice as many photos of Japanese suffering from Americans," she said. "I think this is wrong."

Critics say that the pictures and text to accompany the exhibition of the superfortress bomber fails to give a balanced perspective of the 1945 bombing that led to the end of the war with Japan. The bomber, called the Enola Gay, after the mother of the pilot, Paul Tibbets, is to be exhibited by the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum on the anniversary of the attack next year.

A draft script for the exhibit has already been revised following complaints that it was "revisionist." But Sen. Kassebaum introduced a bill urging the Smithsonian to revise the exhibit again, saying that as currently written the script was "revisionist, unbalanced and offensive."

She said that although the Smithsonian had worked with veterans' groups to improve the script since she had complained about it in a letter last March, "serious problems remain."

Sen. Kassebaum said the role of the Enola Gay helped end the war, saving both American and Japanese lives and any exhibit involving the plane should "avoid impugnizing the memory of those who gave their lives for freedom."

She said her Senate resolution would remind the museum "of its obligation to portray history in the proper context of the time."

## U.S. Labour secretary taken ill

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Labour Secretary Robert Reich returned to Washington for medical care Monday after being taken ill aboard an airplane about to take off for Boston.

Mr. Reich had symptoms "consistent with kidney stones," a condition he has suffered in the past, said spokeswoman Jenny Watson. She said the secretary was consulting with his personal doctor and was expected to return to work "sooner, rather than later."

Ms. Watson termed the episode "nothing serious."

## Clinton names panel to support arts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton acted to pump new life into a government partnership with the arts, naming 32 private citizens and his wife, Hillary, to the president's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

The committee includes such entertainment luminaries as composer Quincy Jones, singer-actress Rita Moreno, and violinist Isaac Stern. The committee was created in 1982 by President Ronald Reagan, a former actor, who wanted to lend his personal touch to support for the arts.

It languished under his successor, President George Bush. The White House announcement said Mr. Clinton is revitalising the panel. "At a time when our society faces new and profound challenges, when we are losing so many of our children, and when so many people feel insecure in the face of change, the arts and the humanities are fundamental to our lives as individuals and as a nation," the announcement said.

The parties signing the statement were: — The Jordan Arab Socialist Baath Party; the Islamic Action Front; the National Action Front; the Jordan Democratic Socialist Party; the Jordan Democratic People's Party; the Jordanian People's Democratic Union Party; the Jordan Communist Party; the Jordan Arab Democratic Party; and the Popular Committee to Fight Normalisation and Surrender.

The continuation of such a policy would lead to aborting the democratisation process and the imposition of martial law," it said, demanding that "the government halt arbitrary measures and stop dealing with all cases related to journalism as criminal cases."

"The government should avoid attempts to interpret the Press and Publications Law in a manner that serves its policies," it said, adding that the parties decided to submit a memorandum to the government.

The parties signing the statement were: — The Jordan Arab Socialist Baath Party; the Islamic Action Front; the National Action Front; the Jordan Democratic Socialist Party; the Jordan Democratic People's Party; the Jordanian People's Democratic Union Party; the Jordan Communist Party; the Jordan Arab Democratic Party; and the Popular Committee to Fight Normalisation and Surrender.

The questioning of the three journalists were the latest in a series of legal action taken by the Press and Publications Department of the Ministry of Information to enforce the law.

In a statement faxed to the

## Rights group says Gaza jails improved

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Palestinian self-rule authority, embarrassed by the death of an inmate in July, has since greatly improved its treatment of prisoners in autonomous Gaza, Palestinian human rights groups say.

"At the beginning, we had enormous complaints about the use of physical and psychological violence, about inadequate prison conditions, and about certain gaps in legal procedures," said Hanan Asrawi, commissioner-general of the Palestinian Independent Committee for Citizens' Rights.

"On subsequent trips (to prisons) we noted most of these areas have been dealt with positively. Not a single detainee complained of violence," she added.

Human rights groups were shocked in July when prisoner Farid Jarbou died in jail

while being held on suspicion of collaborating with Israel during the occupation. His family said his corpse showed signs of torture.

Three policemen were detained and now faced charges.

Many Gazans, who suffered 27 years of Israeli occupation, feared that the death of Jarbou was a sign Gaza, which came under Palestinian self-rule in May, would turn into a police state where torture was commonly used.

But Dr. Ashrawi, the former spokeswoman for the Palestinian peace negotiators, and other human rights activists say the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has responded to suggestions and advice on how to interrogate and treat prisoners.

"Conditions have improved greatly after the death of Jarbou. There are strict

orders not to torture or mistreat (prisoners)," said Assad Younis from the Palestine Human Rights Information Centre, who visits the prisons.

Yousef Al Haddad, director of the Gaza office of the Washington-based Solidarity International for Human Rights, said the Palestinian authority now employs professional interrogators — usually graduates in law — who rely mostly on evidence during questioning rather than violence.

"We have good access to the detainees and generally there are no complaints of systematic violence," Mr. Haddad said.

He said one prisoner told him an interrogator slapped him a couple of times but did not complain of serious violence.

The Palestinian authority holds three main categories of prisoners: Those suspected

of ordinary criminal offences, activists from political groups suspected of attacking Israelis to stop the peace agreement, and suspected collaborators.

Around 70 Palestinians were being held this week. Collaborators aroused most concern among rights activists as they were accused of a crime hateful to most Palestinians.

"We had the impression that prisons were like a slaughter house for the collaborators. But I was surprised to find out they have a sort of a rehabilitation programme," Mr. Haddad said. He did not give details.

Most of the few dozen opposition activists arrested in recent weeks were released without being charged.

Mr. Haddad said food and sanitary conditions in prison were adequate and prisoners had good access to medical services.

## Three journalists questioned over 'violations' of press law

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — One journalist was released Tuesday after being held for two days by the security authorities for publishing a report that was deemed harmful to the Armed Forces and two others were questioned on articles that were seen to violate the Press and Publications Law, informed sources said Tuesday.

They said Nidal Mansour, chief editor of the weekly Al Bilad, was released from custody after two days of questioning over an article that appeared in Al Bilad six weeks ago alleging that several members of Jordan's U.N. force in Croatia, former Yugoslavia, were afflicted with AIDS.

Jordan has more than 3,000 security personnel in the U.N. peace force in former Yugoslavia, most of them in Croatia.

It was not immediately known whether Mr. Mansour, who used to work with the weekly tabloid Shihab before joining Al Bilad, would face charges. But the sources said the weekly would publish a story next week saying that the article was not intended to harm the Armed Forces.

A provision in the Press and Publication Law, which took effect in May 1993, bans publication of any report that harms the image of the Armed Forces.

According to sources quoted by the Associated Press, Mr. Mansour was released on condition that the weekly "retracted" an Aug. 10 article in which it said that 12 of the 3,000 Jordanian troops serving with the U.N. peacekeeping force in

Croatia could have been infected with AIDS.

No official comment was available on the case. Reuter reported that Mr. Mansour was released after Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali intervened.

Shortly before the journalist was freed, about 20 journalists staged a protest outside the Prime Ministry demanding his release.

Mr. Mansour, 33, is facing trial for publishing another article two months ago related to an illegal group that opposes normalisation of Jordan's relations with Israel. The journalist is scheduled to appear before the prosecutor on Thursday.

Reports related to the same illegal group also have another journalist, Fahd Rimawi of Al Majd, facing charges of violating the Press and Publication Law.

Mr. Rimawi, a former columnist with the mass-circulation Al Ra'i Arabic daily, was also called in for questioning by prosecutors this week, sources said. In addition to two counts of charges stemming from the two reports, Mr. Rimawi also faces three other charges of violating the law since July 27.

Another journalist, Hilmi Al Asmar of Al Sabeel, the mouthpiece of the opposition Islamic Action Front, was also questioned this week on possible charges of violating the law. No details were available on the charges against him.

The questioning of the three journalists were the latest in a series of legal action taken by the Press and Publications Department of the Ministry of Information to enforce the law.

In a statement faxed to the

## Egypt court sentences 2 to death in Alexandria

CAIRO (Agencies) — An Egyptian military court on Tuesday convicted 11 militants of plotting to overthrow Egypt's secular government and sentenced two to death.

The others were given prison sentences ranging from three years to 15 years. Four of the men are at large, including one of those sentenced to die.

The case was tried in the coastal city of Alexandria behind closed doors, although reporters were admitted to the opening session in August and to Tuesday's sentencing.

All of the militants are from the town of Mahmoudiya, which is 140 kilometres northwest of Cairo, the court said.

The court ruled that the men were guilty of "belonging to an illegal organisation and plotting to overthrow the government."

It did not give details of how they planned to do this.

The government-owned Middle East News Agency said that the two men condemned to death "received training in terrorism tactics in military camps in Ye-

men and Sudan."

It also said the two — identified as Ahmed Mohammad and Sherif Hasaan, who remains at large, returned to Egypt via Jordan and were being financed by "foreign sources."

Muslim extremists have waged a 2½-year campaign of violence to try to overthrow Egypt's secular government and replace it with strict Islamic rule.

More than 415 people have been killed, many of them militants and policemen.

The groups blamed for most of the violence are Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah and Vanguard of Conquest, which is believed to be a revival of the Jihad group that assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

It was unclear if those convicted Tuesday had any connection with either the Islamic Group or the Vanguard.

At least 65 people have been sentenced to death and 42 have been executed since Egypt began referring cases involving Islamic extremists to military tribunals in De-

cember 1992.

The practice has been sharply criticised by human rights groups, including the London-headquartered Amnesty International.

They argue that suspected militants should be tried before civil courts and be given a right of appeal. Under the military court system, those convicted can only appeal for leniency to President Hosni Mubarak. He has not reversed any military court rulings.

5 injured in attack

About 10 gunmen thought to be militants attacked the office of a village chief in southern Egypt, wounding two guards and three civilians, security sources said on Tuesday.

Police said they suspected the gunmen were members of the Gamaa and that they were trying to assassinate the village chief because earlier this month he had a local Gamaa leader arrested.

The chief, Mohammad Nabil Abdel Muni, had left his office to go home about two

minutes before the attack, which took place at 10 p.m. on Monday in the village of Manshiet Al Maghalqa.

The village is near the town of Mallawi, on the Nile 230 kilometres south of Cairo.

For the past two months the area has been the main theatre of operations for the Gamaa.

The village chief said the attack was the work of "the terrorists" — the official term for Gamaa militants.

One of the guards, Talaat Shehata Abdullah, was seriously wounded and the gunman stole his rifle, the sources said.

Amnesty criticism

Human rights are under threat in Egypt as the government responds to a rise in political violence from militant groups, with lawyers and journalists the latest victims, Amnesty International said on Tuesday.

Thousands of sympathisers and members of banned militant Islamic groups have been arrested and detained for illegally long periods, the human rights campaign group said.

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